THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 19TH MARCH.

THE COMMON sense Government of the Hon'ble Ashley Eden tends to allay the native feeling on the subject of dramatic representation. He does not intend to work the repressive clauses of the Dramatic Performances Act. In reply to a representation from the British Indian Association Mr. Secretary Mangles writes:

"In reply I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor does not consider that it is necessary to appoint a standing committee for the purpose indicated, and that he hopes that, as a special law has now been passed, which clearly prohibits all dramas of a scandalous or defamatory character, no occasion will arise in future for having recourse to the repressive or penal sections of the Act. I am to add, however, that in any case the Committee of the British Indian Association may rest assured that no action will be taken by the Government, under section 3 of the Act, without the fullest inquiry and after such references to experts and others as may be considered necessary."

This is very satisfactory.

MR. GRANT DUFF took the Ministry to task for omitting all allusion to the terrible cyclone-wave in East Bengal in the Queen's Speech to Parliament. He said:

"The mover of the address, guided, he thought, by a happier inspiration than that under which the Cabinet settled the Royal speech, did allude to this sad event; but surely the speech itself should have made some mention of it, especially as it was the first Royal speech delivered since the proclamation of the Imperial title. An hon. member, addressing his constituents in a town of Northern England the other day, illustrated the curious manner in which we passed over with little remark occurrences of great importance in distant parts of Her Majesty's dominions. If, he said, a storm occurred on our coast and thirty men went down at the mouth of the Tyne, there was a great and general excitement; but now 250,000 persons had been destroyed in India in one moment, just as if the whole population of the country of Northumberland had been swept into sea. That he (Mr. Grant Duff) thought a striking illustration when he read it, and he confessed he did not expect so soon to meet with so startling a confirmation of the truth which the hon'ble member was enforcing. He hoped the leader of the House would be able to state that it was not forgetfulness, but some sufficient and explicable though not obvious, reason which excluded all allusion to such a tragedy from the gracious speech of yesterday. Surely, to have said one kind word about it would have been very agreeable to Her Majesty, and to show that India had its fair, though not more than its fair, place in the thoughts of its ruler would he could not help thinking, do more to attach the inhabitants of that country to the Throne than much burning of powder in salutes—(hear, hear)—or the congregating of any number of elephants among the twelve ruined cities which surrounded the present Delhi, and the fallen magnificence of which must, in the eyes of some observers, have given a touch of grim irony to the scene. He the more regretted this terrible visitation had been left without mention because it fell chiefly upon the peasantry, and because of late the tendency had been, he thought—owing, he trusted, only to accidental circumstances—to bring the Princes and Potentates of the Peninsula a little too prominently into relief at the expense both of the humbler classes of the natives and of the European servants of the Crown, by whose brains and arms the Empire was wisely and bravely won and mainly held (hear, hear.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made an excuse by saying that the omission was due to the Secretary of State's absence from the earlier sittings of the Cabinet on the subject!

THE RAJA of Moyurbhunj in the Orissa Division has made a donation of Rs. 5,000, for the establishment of scholarships in connection with the Cuttack College and Medical School. Babu Nobinchunder Roy Chowdhari zemindar of Bamundanga in the district of Rungpore has made a munificent donation of Rs. 20,000 for the construction of a bridge over the Alaikooree river on the road from Rungpore to Kalliguuge, in commemoration of the assumption by Her Majesty the Queen of the title of Empress of India. The bridge is to be called after the donor's name. The thanks of Government have been communicated to both these gentlemen for their public spirit and liberality.

A SUBSCRIBER thus writes to us from the interior of Madras regarding the Famine:

"Famine all round with cholera. Numbers are dying daily from starvation, but the Police and Talook underlings seek to lay these at the doors of other diseases to avoid unpleasant explanations and recriminations. The result is the actual amount of distress is misrepresented, and we have no end of *colour de rose* official reports Never was such suffering known in previous years. It is a significant fact that in places *surveyed*, the distress is the greatest. Fifty years persistent application of the English screw in matters of revenue has left now the ryot bare-backed and empty-stomacked. Providing him with relief works is a solemn farce. Caste prejudices are in the way of many, and it cannot be supposed that the Government allowance of 2 annas a head for 12 hours hard labor is enough to keep the bodies and souls of the labourer and his family together even for a day. What intensifies the distress is want of water. Our Public Works Department has been in full swing for the last quarter of a century consuming lacs upon lacs of the revenue every year in the shape of pay alone. There is not a new tank or a channel made by them, I know of. Some of the old tanks never in the memory of man dry, have not a drop now being so much silted up.

Who is responsible for all this culpable extravagance, and the present crisis?

To illustrate the above remarks I could give you any number of instances, but *cui bono*? It will only be waste of time and paper. Heaven's decrees cannot be averted. But man may be merciful to the innocent."

A VERY important point in connection with prosecutions for using insufficient stamps has been decided by the High Court. The Court has recorded the following opinion:

"A Collector has power to prosecute in every case coming within the provisions of section 24, but he is not to do so unless he shall have reason to think that there has been an intent to evade payment of stamp duty."

"It may be true that the Collector is not bound to offer any evidence of intention, or even to state the reasons which induce him to prosecute; but the question of intention is nevertheless, one which the Magistrate is bound to consider, and he must hear the statement of the accused, and any evidence which he may offer in reference to it."

"A Collector may have found his conclusion on insufficient grounds, or have ordered a prosecution without due consideration, and the Magistrate is not bound, to be guided so far as the question of penalty is concerned by the mere fact of the prosecution having been instituted."

HERE is another case, which shews that the native judicial officer generally gives a correct decision in suits against public officers. The reader is already acquainted with the facts of the Burranagore Municipal case, in which a *posse* of officers of the Suburban Municipality executed a distress warrant in a most high-handed manner. The case came before the High Court; Mr. Justice Macpherson in his judgment says:

"It seems to us that the amount of damages given by the Subordinate Judge met the justice of the case better than the reduced sum allowed by the Judge. There is no doubt that the conduct of the officers of the Municipality was exceedingly high-handed and bad, and that a great deal of what they did was illegal. They had no right whatever to break open the outer gate which was fastened. And the breaking open was illegal. At the time of the proceedings out of which this suit arises, the law did not authorize the breaking open an outer gate in order to obtain admittance for the puprose of making a distress of this kind. It could not have been legally broken open, if the warrant to be executed had been that of a Civil Court. Nor would it have been legal in execution of the warrant of a Criminal Court, but for the special provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code."

The result is that the decree of the lower Appellate Court is set aside, and a decree is given in favour of the plaintiff for Rs. 312, with costs on this amount in all the Courts. And yet it is contended in the Legislative Council that native judicial officers are not competent to try suits against public officers!

THE P. W. D. Accounts of the N. W. P. and Oudh are to be amalgamated.

TUESDAY, 20TH MARCH.

THE PIONEER hears that the Chief Justice has communicated his dissatisfaction to the Secretary of State because the Viceroy has appointed Mr. H. T. Prinsep to act as a Judge of the High Court without consulting him. It cannot, however, be denied that Mr. Prinsep's appointment is an accession of strength to the High Court.

APROPOS of Sir John Strachey's declaration in favor of the abolition of cotton duties and other import duties the *Pioneer* reproduces the following remarks of Lord Northbrook which His Lordship made when the Tariff Bill was under discussion:

"India is a country," in which there is but little choice of new sources of taxation; it would be difficult to replace a large amount of revenue excepting by an Excise duty on tobacco, or by some kind of direct taxation. I am satisfied that such a change would not be desirable even in a financial point of view. The army of tax gatherers, on low pay, which would be let loose over the country to collect a new Excise, would probably involve a larger charge to the Government than the cost of collecting the Customs duties; and, what is of more importance, by the imposition of a new Excise duty or of direct taxation under the best arrangements that could be made to levy either the people of India would, in my opinion, have to pay a larger sum than they would gain by the reduced cost of the articles which would be affected by the abolition of our Customs duties. But this is not all. I have no hesitation in asserting that the political evil of giving up our Customs duties, or a large part of them, and of imposing fresh taxes in their place, would be great. Whatever may be the objections to Customs duties they possess the advantages of being collected easily and paid without pressure. These advantages are of peculiar importance in India, where new taxes are particularly liable to occasion popular discontent. To substitute direct taxes or new Excise duties for the Customs duties which are now imposed upon foreign goods, seems to me to be a policy which would be contrary to the interests of the people of India and which no statesman with a knowledge of India and a sense of responsibility could be found to propose."

The above has the ring of the true statesman.

OUR CONTEMPORARY thus condemns Sir John Strachey's financial policy:

"Sir John Strachey rests his scheme of provincial finance on the fact that there is a great deal of human nature in most Anglo-Indian officials. Is there none in the Indian taxpayer, or does it not matter whether his burdens gall him or not? The notion of abolishing indirect taxes and putting on direct ones for scientific symmetry's sake is mere political pedantry. A country is to suffer that its trade may gain. *Propter vitam, vivendi perdere causas* is *summum nefas* according to Juvenal, and that principle worked out as the final result of fiscal wisdom is a very amazing result to say the least.'

Sir John Strachey has since recanted.

DR. BROWN, who was at the last Criminal Sessions of the High Court, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment on a charge of criminal misappropriation, has, immediately on his release from jail, been arrested by the police on a charge of theft. The allegation against him is that he stole a watch and a breast-pin from the property of a man after his death. This was the man, who championed the Anglo Indians as editor of the *European*.

A CHARGE is pending against the French Consul in Bombay of having assaulted a respectable Parsi. The Consul having struck the horse driven by the Parsi, the latter with his syce followed his carriage and seized the reins of the horse. This the Consul resented by thrashing the Parsi with his whip.

SIR DAVID WEDDERBURN, late member of Parliament for Coventry, delivered an address to the Bombay Branch of the East India Association on the subject of the representation of India and the Indian people in the British Parliament. Sir David strongly advocated it and urged the Association to press upon Government a demand for six seats in the House of Commons being given to as many delegates from the Presidencies and independent States in India, such delegates to be appointed by some means hereafter to be decided upon, and to have the right of addressing the House upon any subject affecting this country, and to present and support petitions, but not to vote. The idea of sending delegates from India to the English Parliament, after the fashion of the delegates to the American Congress from the territories other than the regular States, is not a new one as Sir David Wedderburn explained, but hitherto no attempt has been made to give it a pratical form.

IN REGARD to the fatal crush at Ajoodhia, the District Superintendent of Police writes:—"It was not until *after* the accident, finding how powerless my police force was in controlling such dense crowds that I sent to Fyzabad to ask for the assistance of the cavalry to prevent the possibility of any further accidents. When assistance was sent to me from Fyzabad it was in the shape of 50 men of the 2nd Native Infantry, for which the Deputy Commissioner sent a written application later in the day." But why no precautions had been taken until *after* the accident?

WEDNESDAY, 21ST MARCH.

WITH REFERENCE to Indigo cultivation in Behar a Ryots' Friend writes to the *Pioneer*: "I now ask one simple question, if the cultivation of indigo were profitable and acceptable to the ryot, why would he desert his home and village where his fathers have lived for years and years, and with his household and movable property migrate and settle in foreign territory, viz., Nepaul, or in some village which is not in indigo?—which hundreds of them do every year, and are daily doing." This is a question for the Government to solve.

LADY ANNA GORE LANGTON, sister of the Duke of Buckingham, on her return from India, delivered a lecture on "The Social Condition of Women in Southern India," at the National Society for Women's Suffrage. She said that as the result of her own recent experience in the manners of the country she had found that Indian children were married at eight years of age. But when married they did not always go at once to their husbands' homes. The marriages were generally arranged by the old women, who went from family to family to find suitable matches. The men in India were to a great

extent ruled by the women, who were very conservative and had a great objection to any improvement in their customs. The lower-class women worked very hard, pulling stone rollers, cutting grass, and in helping their husbands in bricklaying. The natives treated widows very badly; their clothes and jewels were taken away from them and they were made as miserable as possible. Nothing was more painful to see than the vacant, hopeless, melancholy faces of the adult women, and nothing was more wanted that lady doctors, who might save Indian women much suffering. So the lady-doctor is the panacea for all the ills to which woman flesh in Southern India is heir to.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Cologne Gazette* gives the following account of the dispute which recently occurred at Smyrna between German and French seamen:—

"Some thirty French seamen were sitting and drinking at the Cafe Paoli, and a few English seamen at another table, when the Germans entered, thirteen in number. After some time the French were invited by other persons to give a song, and they forthwith sang the Marseillaise. The English were asked next, and sang "Red White, and Blue." In due course the Germans were likewise asked and they sang "The Watch on the Rhine." The choice of this song so incensed the French that, accepting it as a challenge, they attacked the Germans with their knives and diggers, while one Frenchman threw a chair at the principal singer, Rosenstein, and so seriously wounded him that Rosenstein has died since in consequence. The Germans defended themselves with the legs of tables and chairs, and did so with such good effect—according to the correspondent referred to—as to beat their adversaries fairly out of the field, notwithstanding the French were thirty to their twelve."

THE AMERICANS are arranging a scientific expedition round the world. The voyage, which it is estimated will take two years, is to be performed by a first-class steamship of 1,000 tons burden, fitted with saloons for study, lectures, and work, and provided with steam launches and a sufficient armament. The object is to visit points of general and special interest especially localities nearly or quite unknown to naturalists, to study their architecture archæology, and geology, as well as fauna and flora, and also to make collections. The scientific corps will consist of a faculty of ten, composed of professors of the leading universities. There will be accommodation in the vessel for from sixty to eighty students. The proposed course is *via* the Bahamas, Teritugas, and Havannah, the mouth of the Amazon, Rio, Monte Video, the Falkland Islands, the Straits of Magellan to Valparaiso thence to the Polynesian Islands, Australia, New Guinea, Celebes (Macassar), Philippine Islands, Hong Kong, Canton, Formosa, Singapore, Malacca, Sumatra and Java, Calcutta, Ceylon, the Laccadive Islands, and Bombay; thence *via* Aden and the Suez Canal, to Alexandria, from which point excursions up the Nile and to Palestine are planned, and subsequently to Constantinople, the chief cities of Italy, France, and England, and, finally, home by way of the Azores.

A REPORT on the system of popular instruction in the American Republic says that in all the States public instruction is gratuitous for the whole youth. The schools are everywhere separated from Church, and are State institutions. Each State has a school fund, to which the central Government has contributed by donation many million acres of the national domains. About 8,500,000 children are entered in the school lists. The number of the teachers at the public schools is 249,262. Moreover, there are educational institutions, on the same footing as academies or colleges, to the number of 222—with 2,405 lady teachers and professors—which are exclusively for girls. They contain about 24,000 lady students. The number of the so called Universities is 255, with 4,000 professors of both sexes, and 59,000 students. At several of these Universities, ladies are admitted. There are 84 schools of art, industry, commerce, and agriculture, with 749 professors, and 7,157 students. In addition, there are some 270 special seminaries for law, medicine, pharmacy, and theology, with 1,172 professors and 10,000 students.

WE HAVE received some numbers of an English paper called the *Colonies and India*. It does not however seem to be strong in the Indian department.

IT APPEARS that the cultivation of *Eucalyptus Globulus*, the malaria-destroying plant, has failed everywhere in India except at Ranikhet and on the Nilgiris. We are told that in Bengal, all attempts to grow the *Eucalyptus globulus* in the Botanic Gardens have failed. This, in Dr. King's opinion, is owing to the high water-level in the sub-soil, the high temperature, and the alluvial nature of the soil of the province. Mr. Badar Powell does not think that the Punjab plains suit the *Eucalyptus* species. It has failed in Assam, too; and the failure is ascribed by Mr. Kurz, of the Royal Botanic Gardens, both to too much moisture, and too much heat. In Oudh, it has been tried without success by Dr. Bovavia. In Mysore and Coorg, it has failed at an elevation which might have been supposed favourable to its development; and in short, after repeated experiments, it appears that the much-desired blue gum tree has met with a measure of success only at Ranikhet and on the Nilgiris—that is to say, just where it is not wanted as a malaria destroying agent.

THE ACADEMY thus notices Baboo Ram Das Sen's last publication, the Aitihasika Rahasya or Historical Essays:

"Ram Das Sen, whose essays on some of the principal facts of India have excited great interest among Sanskrit Scholars has just published a second volume, called Historical Essays (Aitihasika Rahasya). They treat on various subjects, the most important being, "the Vedas," "Buddhism," "The Pali Language and Literature," "Jainism," The Indian Stage" &c. An English translation of these essays, or of a selection from them, would be welcomed by all friends of Oriental literature."

The compliment is well deserved. The volume noticed is the second of the series, the 3rd vol we understand is in course of preparation. The book will be completed in four volumes.

THURSDAY, 22ND MARCH.

A COOCH BEHAR CORRESPONDENT sends us the following item:

Mr. E. M. Reily, manager of the Chaklaghat Estates, has resigned his office in consequence of certain unfavorable strictures upon him by the Commissioner Lord Ulick Brown. Mr. Reily was a popular officer. The Commissioner of the Division has cancelled a debt of Rs. 11,000 owing by the ryots of the Cooch Behar State for seed paddy distributed to them during the last famine year. The measure has given the poor people great relief. Cholera is committing terrible ravages at Dubigunge and its neighbouring villages, where there are neither doctors nor medicines.

THE FOLLOWING from a correspondent will be read with interest by scientific men:

A plant has been newly found out in Lukhipar the leaves of which turn very much to the shape of a grass-hopper in proportion as they grow old, till all the parts of the insects so formed become fully developed; and each leaf forming a separate insect issues out in a very beautiful appearance.

This plant is known to grow by itself, and no second plant has yet been seen to grow from it.

A gentleman in whose house that plant was found to grow noticed it from time to time and carefully watched the progress of the insects forming out of the leaves. One day seeing certain leaves in form of insects fly out from the plant he came to a resolution of getting hold of some of them if possible in order that he might show them to his friends, who would not otherwise believe him. With this object in view he set about the task in earnest and in a short time succeeded in producing two or three insects to the utter astonishment of his friends. And as a member of my family is a friend of his, he sent one to ours and thus we had an opportunity of seeing a wonder."

A CORRESPONDENT bitterly complains of the proceedings of the Moorshedabad Municipality. While the sanitary condition of the city is deplorable, the Commissioners are busy with their arrangements for lighting the town. The sudder distillery has been established in the heart of the populous part of the town and all the remonstrances of the inhabitants have been of no avail.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following:

"Anent your remarks regarding the feeling of native chiefs with reference to the recent bestowal of princely titles on zemindars allow me to call to your mind one historical fact, which cannot fail to be interesting. When the Emperor of Delhi declined to receive the Marquis of Hastings otherwise than as a subordinate standing bare-footed with nuzzer in hand, the Marquis, in great dudgeon, said, "if I am not a king, I can make many an Indian king." Soon after, he dubbed Gazioodeen Hydar Nawab Vizier of Lucknow, King of Oudh with power to coin money in his own name. On the day of the coronation the Emperor of Delhi held a Court, gave the title of Shah to a monkey, had *ashrafees* struck bearing the effigy of a monkey crowned, and had them sent as presents to all the ruling chiefs of India. The Emperor had the sympathy of all the chiefs ranged on his side, but he himself became an implacable enemy of the British Government. Both the Shah of Oudh and the Emperor have now long since been swept away, but the feeling which prompted the Great Mogul is not perhaps a stranger to the breasts of the native chiefs of the present day."

STUD IMDAD ALI, Secretary to the Behar Literary and Scientific Society, was lately amongst us. This gentleman, though unacquainted with English, possesses extensive information and a broad mind. His exertions to ameliorate the condition of his co-religionists in Behar cannot be too highly admired.

THE CRIES of Howrah have found an echo at Belvedere. Mr. Grant, Magistrate of Howrah, is transferred to Burdwan, and Mr. Pellew is appointed in his stead. We dare say Mr. Pellew will give balm to the wounds under which the Howrahites are writhing.

SIR WILLIAM HERSCHELL does not go to Orissa. Mr. Beames, Collector of Cuttack, will probably succeed Mr. Ravenshaw as Commissioner of Orissa.

FRIDAY, 23RD MARCH.

MR. J. D. BELL has been appointed to officiate as Standing Counsel. It is said that Mr. Macrae will get the appointment on his return from England.

THE STATESMAN justly takes credit for broaching first the idea of abolishing the customs duties *in toto*. Our contemporary says that "the project that is now introduced into the Legislative Council, in 1877, was formally anticipated by ourselves we say, and addressed personally to the Manchester Chamber, in conference with that of Liverpool, and in presence of many Members of the House of Commons in 1866." The writer has, however, since changed his opinion. He says: "We are now unfeignedly glad that it has been deferred; since mature reflection satisfies us that we rightly abandoned the proposal ourselves, and that it is not wise to attempt to revive it." This confession is highly honorable to our contemporary.

IT WOULD appear that our contemporary was consulted by Sir John Strachey before propounding his Budget. He says: "Sir John Strachey did us the honor a few weeks ago privately to direct our attention to the subject, when we told him that we feared the circumstances of the country had so greatly changed since 1866, that we doubted the wisdom of any present attempt to carry the revolution we had then so strongly advocated." We do not know how far this disclosure will be palatable to Sir John. But one thing is clear, Sir John did not make his statement at the spur of the moment as he led the public to believe by his "explanations" of Wednesday last.

RUFFLER IN VANITY FAIR has the following:

"The picture of Genius spurning the ignoble trammels of conventionality always fills me with emotion, and I have been much touched by a very pretty story which has reached me from Calcutta. At a levee held at a Government-house, on the 23rd January, the presentations were rather numerous, and after a considerable number of gentlemen had made their obeisance, the Viceroy felt rather tired. He accordingly ordered that the doors of the throne-room should be shut, which being done, he seated himself on the throne and lighted a cigarette which he proceeded to smoke. This refreshment finished, the doors were again opened, and the remaining presentations were made. It will hardly be believed that some of the gentlemen who have the privilege of private *entree*, and who stand in the neighbourhood of the throne during *levees*, failed to appreciate the combined novelty and simplicity of this proceeding. These cavillers say that Viceroys have been tired ere now and have not smoked; that no one has ever smoked before while sitting on the throne; that the gentlemen waiting in the corridors outside the throne-room to be presented, and those standing round the throne were tired and would have liked to smoke cigarettes, and so forth. All which tends to show that a man of Lord Lytton's originality, high refinement, and culture, is quite thrown away in India."

Not at all. It would be most unjust to accuse our amiable Viceroy of selfishness. If others did not help themselves, it was not His Excellency's fault.

THE SERVICES of Mr. Lethbridge, the accomplished Principal of the Krishnaghur College, have been placed at the disposal of the Government of India. He will be engaged on the staff for the compilation of the Imperial Gazetteer and will draw a salary of Rs. 2,000 a month. His literary attainments, and his experience in the Record office at London eminently qualify him for this task. The people of Krishnaghur presented him an address, to which he returned a very hearty reply. We have received both the address and reply for publication.

APROPOS of Mr. Lethbridge's transfer our Krishnaghur correspondent says:

"Now that Mr. Lethbridge is going away from the College, I hope you will write something by way of protest against the practice of allowing the Principal to reside in the College, premises to the great inconvenience of the boys and teachers. The case of Mr. Lethbridge might have been exceptional, for it would have been an act of ingratitude on the part of the Krishnagar public to have taken any objection to his remaining there, when the College has been so much benefitted by him; but to allow the use of the College rooms to every Principal, would be against the public interests."

WE ARE informed by our Krishnaghur correspondent that the Bongong defalcation cases have been decided. In the first case, the jury differed, and a reference has been made to the High Court; in the second case the unanimous verdict of *guilty* has been brought in by the jury, and the prisoner has been sentenced. From the letter of our correspondent it would appear that the people of Krishnaghur believe him to be innocent and also sympathize with him, and that the Magistrate Mr. Stevens would have been satisfied by simply dismissing him.

THE FOLLOWING outrage is reported from Banna, Punjab, by a correspondent, whose letter is dated the 18th instant:

"On the 13th of February last at about 9 A.M. a Mahomedan fanatic aged about 22 years snatched the sword of a Police Constable, stationed at "Baran Boorj," about a mile from this place on the north side, and tried to kill the Constable, who however overpowered him and handed him over for justice. The Constable received a reward of Rs. 50 for his gallantry and the would-be murderer was tried under Section 2 Act XXIII of 1867 by the Sessions Court and sentenced to transportation for life. These facts of Mahomedan fanaticism show that notwithstanding the beneficent rule of the British administration of over 26 years, the hill tribes have imbibed the spirit of English civilisation."

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT writes:

"It is rumoured that the Afridis of Kohat District have surrendered and have given up the Pass which they had blockaded for over one year, but storing of provision by the Commissariat and seizure of carriage have not yet been stopped.

The town Edwardesabad is being ornamented with magnificent "Packa Shops," Roads, Watercourse, and Drainage &c. under the good management of the Municipal Committee under its able Secretary Captain A. S. Roberts Judicial Assistant Commissioner. The conservancy management is praise-

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worthy and creditable to the Assistant Secretary of the Municipality Baboo Harran Chunder Mookerjee."

SATURDAY, 24TH MARCH.

A CORRESPONDENT sends the following letter from Pooree dated the 14th instant:

"The late "Dolejatra" fair at Pooree was managed this year by the Magistrate, the Joint Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police. Notwithstanding this distinguished supervision six pilgrims were drowned while bathing at the sea shore, and sixteen were killed from the pressure of the crowd, three-fourths of the pilgrims were obliged to return home without seeing Juggunath for which they had incurred so much trouble and expense in coming from the different and remote parts of India. During the last sixteen years no deaths occurred at the Dolejatra fair under the management of native Police Officers.

Many poor pilgrims died of cholera for want of treatment, there was only one Charitable Dispensary, which the helpless patients could not walk to; the appointment of a few Native doctors or compounders to supply medicines at their houses might have saved some of the poor sufferers.

Possibly the Police were not prepared for the unusual rush of pilgrims owing to Govinddwadassi.

WE THANK the proprietor of the Gupta Press for a copy of a Bengali Almanac for the next Bengali year. It is neatly got up, very handy, and replete with information such as one who has to refer to a Bengali Almanac wants. The price is very low—4 annas a copy.

THE CALCUTTA Correspondent of the *Pioneer* says that Mr. Eden has written an elaborate minute, adopting Sir Richard Temple's scheme for the appointment of eleven final appellate benches in the Mofussil to be presided over by a Civilian Judge and a Native Judge. We believe the scale of salary ranges from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 3,000 per month, and no distinction will be made between the European and the Native. The selection of Native Judges we hear will be made from the subordinate judicial service and the bar. The extra cost will be provided out of the receipts from the judicial stamps, which have been lately made over to the local Government.

MAJOR-GENERAL Sir Elwin Johnson has been duly installed as Military Member of the Governor General's Council.

IN THE list of patents notified in this morning's *Gazette of India* we read the following specifications:

No. 62 of 1876.—Mr. C. E. Bowhay and Mr. Kunj Behari Lall Khanna, Mechanical Engineers and Contractors, Davoosh ire Iron Work, Allahabad, for "a safety permanent way railway chair and key.

No. 92 of 1876.—Babu Deb Narain Bysak, No. 3, Prosonno Coomar Tagore's Street, in the Town of Calcutta, for "working the ordinary Bengali oil mill with steam power, with an improvement in the mill itself.

No. 16 of 1877.—Babu Sheeta Nath Ghose, son of Giridhur Ghose, Talookdar of Roygram, in Station Lohargurah, in the District of Jessore, for "a weaving machine.

MR. PEACOCK, Dacca Commissioner, recommends the abolition of the fair at Moonsheegunge on the occasion of the Baroni festival on sanitary grounds. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has passed the following orders on the subject:

His Honor does not approve of your proposal that the present period, viz: one month, during which the fair is held should be gradually reduced until finally the fair ceases altogether. On the contrary, the Lieutenant-Governor desires me to say that every encouragement should be given to render the fair a success in future as it has been in past years.

We entirely concur.

THE LEADER has the following on Sir John Strachey's recantation:

"He now repudiates all idea of committing the Government. He was merely murmuring soft sounds to himself. The thoughts and fancies of his youth came bubbling up in words. It would have been wiser, perhaps, and in better taste not to have indulged in such stage whispers, but he was a child of nature and accustomed to speak out of the abundance of his heart. It was only when he happened to read his speech in cold blood, that he found he had travelled beyond his record. His colleagues generously accepted this very lame and halting apology. In cold blood why, there had been no debate—nothing to fire his ardent temperament. He read from the printed pamphlet, slowly, calmly, and with artistic emphasis. There was no hurry, no excitement. What he said, he said purposely. He knew perfectly well what he was doing. He is no impulsive school-girl to be carried away by tender emotions. He himself declared that he was above all things an Englishman—which means a clear headed, practical, unsympathetic egotist. And what was there to excite sensational feelings? It was not to poor ryots of India who were to benefit by the abolition of these duties, but the wealthy mill-owners of Lancashire. A public servant who is easily overcome by sentiment, is not fitted to take charge of any important department of the State—least of all, of the Finances, than which nothing requires a more delicate temperate, and judicious manipulation.'

The *Leader* expresses the universal feeling on the subject. Sir John evidently forgot that he was in the pay of India and not of Manchester.

WE TAKE the following telegrams of the week from the morning papers:

London March 15.—General Ignatieff has arrived from Paris. It is generally reported that England has accepted the principle of the Protocol presented by Russia, but with the introduction of certain amendments by which phrases which find (bind) our future action are avoided. In the Commons, Lord Hamilton, in replying to a question, said that the Treaty concluded with Khelat was a revival of the treaty concluded with that country in 1851, but adapted to present circumstances. An aggressive policy, he said, was not intended. 17.—In the House of Commons last night Sir Stafford Northcote, repiying to Lord Hartington, said that the report that England had accepted the principle of the Russian Protocol but with certain amendments was true, and that Count Schouvaloff had received amendments *ad referendum*, and now awaits instructions from his Government.

17.—Sir Henry Elliott has been ordered to return to Constantinople to resume his post as British Ambassador at the Porte.

19.—In the House of Lords to-night Lord Derby, replying to a question, said that Count Schouvaloff had to-day presented the reply from his Government with reference to the amendments introduced by England into the Russian protocol Russia in her reply proposes to make further alterations in amended protocol, and these are now under the consideration of the Cabinet. Sir. H. Elliott does not return to Constantinople till he has taken further rest. Meanwhile, a temporary substitute will perform his duties. The Minister Plenipotentiary of the Chinese Embassy, replying to a deputation of the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Traffic, said that China was anxious to abolish the opium trade, but that it was impossible to do so unless other countries besides England co-operated.

Paris March 17.—After an animated debate the Chamber of Deputies have approved of the prosecution of M. De. Cassagnac.

Constantinople March 18.—The special delegates sent by Montenegro to arrange terms of peace with the Porte now await instructions from their Government.

19.—The Turkish Parliament opened to-day. The speech from the Throne admits that the gradual decline of the Empire is owing to the disregard of justice and want of respect of the laws. Heavy armaments, it states, have exhausted the treasury, and the raduction in the interest on Turkish Stock has injured the country's credit. It is now proposed to offer to creditors solid guarantees. The speech dwells on the reforms promised, and trusts that the issue of negotiations with Montenegro may be peaceful.

20.—Warlike preparations are being made at Erzeroum, Kars, and Batoun by the Turks, who also have placed strong garrisons along the Russian frontier. Vengeful fighting has been renewed in Bosnia.

London 22nd March.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer will introduce the budget on the 12th April. In the Lords to-night Lord Derby, replying to a question said, the Cabinet was still examining the text of the Russian protocol, and the conditions under which it would be signed, if signed at all. General Ignatieff has gone to Vienna.

Constantinople. 22nd March. The Porte has prolonged the armistice with Montenegro till 12th April.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications:—1. Calendar of Mail Steamer Departures for 1877. 2. Report on the Sanitary Administration of British Burmah for 1875. 3. The Indian Problem and Indian Famines, a paper read before the East India Association. By Rob. H. Elliot. 4. Information for gentlemen proposing to study in England. 5. Vedarthayatnum or an attempt to interpret the Vedas vol. I. No. 7. 6. Gandhari-Bilap a Poem in Bengali. By Bhobun Mohun Ghose. 7. First Annual Report of the Meckligunge Literary Club in the Cooch Behar State. 8. Gupta Press Bengali Almanac for 1284 B. E. The Pathology and Treatment of Cholera. By Dr. J Murray Translated into Bengali. By Babu Kanye Lall Dey Rai Bahadoor.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1877.

THE MEETING ON THE CIVIL SERVICE QUESTION.

ON SATURDAY last Calcutta saw a scene, which will not be soon forgotten. About three thousand educated native gentlemen of all sections and denominations met at the Town Hall to consider the question of the admission of the natives of India into the Covenanted Civil Service. There was not a nook and corner of the Hall, which was not filled to over-flowing—some hundreds could hardly get standing space and had therefore to return. The gathering itself was the best demonstration on the subject—we do not remember to have seen such a gathering at the Town Hall except perhaps at the Canning Memorial Meeting of 1862 and the Great Education Meeting of 1870. The enthusiasm, which the numbers indicated, bore a significant testimony to the progress of political life among the educated natives of this country. It could not have been an idle curiosity, which brought such a mass of men together, and the attention and order with which they listened to the speeches afforded a pleasing proof of the moral discipline which they had undergone. The meeting was not one of local import only. Letters had been received from various parts of India, which shewed that the cry raised in the capital had found a response in the national heart throughout the country. Organizations will be formed in Northern India, Bombay, and Madras to further the common cause. Union is strength, and our educated countrymen seem to be fully alive to the truth of the adage. In Calcutta all party differences have been subordinated to the advancement of the great national object in view. The question is one, in which there is no conflict of interests, and happily none has been shewn. All parties united to make a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether. One of the distinguished Vice-Presidents of the British Indian Association took the chair, and the gentlemen who took part in the proceedings were representatives of different sections of the community. We give below an abstract of the proceedings

Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen proposed that the Hon'ble the Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur take the chair.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

Mr. Ananda Mohun Bose then read a precis of letters received from different parts of the country in support of the movement. The Chairman next addressed a few appropriate words to the meeting. The following Resolutions were carried *nem con.*

Proposed by M. Ghose Esquire, Barrister-at-law.

Seconded by Babu Kali Churn Banerjea, Professor, Free Church Institution.

I. That this Meeting is of opinion that in order to redeem the gracious pledge solemnly and deliberately given to the people of India by our beloved Sovereign, it is essential that the same facilities for admission to the Covenanted Civil Service of India should be *practically* afforded to Her Majesty's Indian subjects as are enjoyed by the natives of the United Kingdom; and that this Meeting desires to record its firm but respectful protest against the assumption that differences of race and nationality call for the adoption of different tests of merit and qualification in the case of English and Indian candidates for the Civil Service of India.

II. That this Meeting contemplates with deep regret the reduction of the maximum limit of age for candidates for the Indian Civil Service Competition from 21 to 19 years, inasmuch as this change in the limit of age is calculated to aggravate the existing evils of cramming, to lead to the admission of men of inferior training and capacity, to lower the efficiency of the service and practically to exclude natives of India from the Open Competitive Examination.

Proposed by Dr. Mahendro Lal Sircar

Seconded by Babu Hem Chunder Banerjea, Pleader, High Court.

III. That while fully appreciating the object of Her Majesty's Government to secure men of good education and culture for the Civil Service, this Meeting is of opinion that object would be best accomplished by raising the maximum limit of age to 22 years as was recommended by Lord Northbrook, the late Governor-General of India, and other eminent authorities; and this Meeting desires to record its conviction that the higher limit of age should be adopted in the interests of the public service, no less than of Indian candidates for the covenanted appointments.

Proposed by Mr. A. M. Bose, Barrister-at-law.

Seconded by Babu Amarendra Nath Chatterjea, Pleader High Court.

IV. That this Meeting is of opinion that in order to give effect to the gracious intentions of the Crown and Parliament, to satisfy the just aspirations and recognised claims of the people of India, and to facilitate their admission into the Civil Service of their own country, it is necessary that simultaneously with the Open Competition in London, similar examinations should be held in some centre or centres in India, where a certain definite proportion of appointments may be competed for, year after year.

Proposed by Babu Narendra Nath Sen, Editor, *Indian Mirror.*

Seconded by Babu Jodoo Nath Ghose, Principal, Seal's Free College.

V. That the following gentlemen be appointed to form a Committee for the purpose of drawing up and forwarding a Memorial to Parliament, embodying the substance of the Resolutions adopted at this Meeting:—

The Hon'ble Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur.
Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra, LL.D.
The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal.
The Hon'ble Newab Meer Mohamed Ali.
Babu Keshub Chunder Sen.
Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar,
M. Ghose, Esq., *Barrister-at-Law.*
Babu Chunder Nath Bose, M.A., B.L.
Raja Sama Sanker Roy Chowdhry
Babu Gooroo Doss Banerjea, D.L.
A. M. Bose, Esq., BARRISTER-AT-LAW, *Member and Secretary.*

Proposed by Kumar Canti Chunder Singh, Paikpara Raj Family.

Seconded by Baboo Shama Churn Sircar, late Chief Interpreter, High Court.

VI. That the proceedings of this Meeting be published and circulated amongst the Members of both Houses of Parliament, under the signature of the Chairman of this Meeting.

Proposed by Hon'ble Newab Mir Mohamed Ali, Member, Bengal Legislative Council.

Seconded by Raja Shama Sanker Roy Bahadur, Zemindar.

Babu Kunjo Lal Banerjea, Judge, Small Cause Court, Calcutta, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

The Meeting broke up at 6 P.M.

The speeches were generally fair. Nothing could be better in taste and spirit than the speech of Mr. Manomohun Ghose, who moved the first Resolution. He repudiated the notion that this meeting was in any way hostile to the Government or the Indian Civil Service. The object of the meeting was to press upon the attention of Parliament the fact that the gracious pledge of the Crown and Parliament had remained, in the words of His Excellency the Viceroy, "inadequately redeemed." The speaker argued that the best way of "adequately" redeeming the pledge was to hold the competitive examination for Indians in India. Babu Kalichurn Banerjea, who seconded the first Resolution, poured forth a torrent of eloquence, which carried the whole audience with him. We only wish that he had

not indulged in a general tirade against the English people and English policy. The same fault somewhat disfigured the energetic utterances of Babu Jodunath Ghose, and in a less degree those of Babu Amarendranath Chatterjea. Dr. Mahendralal Sircar made a noble oration. He gave his professional opinion that the reduction of the age for the Indian Civil Service candidates from 21 to 19 would tell so much upon the body and mind that he would not be surprised if it led to the appointment of half-demented youths to govern the destinies of the people of this country. Babu Hem Chunder Banerjea, who we are glad to see is coming forward on occasions like this, was temperate and sensible. Babus Anandamohun Bose and Narendranath Sen were sober, argumentative and practical, the former marshalling his arguments with a force, clearness, and precision which could not fail to carry conviction to every right-thinking man. Upon the whole the meeting was a great success.

The interest which this meeting has excited in the other Presidencies may be perceived from the fact that the *Times of India* we are told has asked its Calcutta agent to send a report of the meeting by telegraph.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

THE debate on the Budget in the Vice-regal Council on Wednesday last was important not so much for what was said as for what having been previously said was unsaid on that day. The recantation of Sir John Strachey, which we notice below, was the most conspicuous event of the day. Before the debate commenced Sir John with a frankness, which we cannot too highly admire, at once stated that what he had said to promote the scientific symmetry of Indian finance, was a flight of his own imagination and not the expression of a deliberate policy of the Government. So far the ground was made clear before his colleagues, who sensibly felt a relief from his "confessions." The ball was then opened by the Maharajah Jotcendra Mohun Tagore, who in a short but pregnant speech pointed out the blots in Sir John Strachey's scheme of decentralization, which he likened to the *ticcadari* system known in Bengal, which involved gross injustice to the provinces, and entailed the necessity of increasing local taxation, adding that "taxes, whether called local or imperial, would press upon the people all the same." He observed: "If justice was to be done to the Local Governments under the decentralization scheme, the only way to do it would be to adopt the course indicated by Lord Canning in his Resolution of the 11th November, 1861." As a Bengali he justly protested against the imposition of fresh taxation upon Bengal when its provincial expenditure came up to about one-third of its gross income. If it was urged that as Bengal was blessed with a Permanent Settlement and as her land revenue could not be increased, she ought to be made to pay in other ways, he replied that in no other part of Bengal was indirect taxation more productive than in Bengal, that to use the words of His Grace the Duke of Argyll, H. M.'s Secretary of State in 1870, "in the greater fruitfulness of indirect taxation and some direct taxes in Bengal, as compared with other provinces, the Government recovers some portion of the revenue which it has sacrificed in the form of land assessment." He also protested against the imposition of a compulsory rate for irrigation, for it so happened that "in Bengal the canals did not supply the water when it was most needed." He expressed surprise that the compulsory irrigation cess should be revived after it had been so recently disallowed by the Secretary of State. Is there to be no continuity in the policy of the Government? The Maharaja was followed by Mr. Bullen Smith, whose speech, remarkable for its thoroughfulness, boldness, and freedom from prejudice, justly excited, as His Excellency the Viceroy remarked, "the liveliest admiration." While accepting the main principles of Sir John Strachey's decentralization scheme, and approving the general features of the Budget, he wished that the Finance Minister had been "more assuring on ways and means." He considered "most unfortunate and injurious that Government has not been able to give more definite information regarding its Loan and Bills operations for the coming year." He observed that "in view of the announcement made in this statement, operations in Government securities must for the present be somewhat of a leap in the dark, while the uncertainty about the issue of the Council Bills must tend to perplex still more all concerned as to the future course of exchange, and reduce this all-important class of business to something not unlike gambling." Regarding what the Finance Minister had uttered about the cotton duties Mr. Bullen Smith said he "would have desired more measured utterances—the remarks, as made, seemed likely to kindle hopes which have no early prospect of accomplishment, and further appeared to indicate that the Government of India was prepared to go to extremes in carrying out the instructions of the Secretary of State on the subject." If the cotton duties were a blot upon our fiscal system, he remarked, "we all know there are blots and blots; some so large as to deface and disfigure the parchment, others so small as to be scarcely discernible—it is a question of degree, and so with these fiscal items." He added:

"I am not one of the foolish people who sneer at Manchester, and I agree with him that he is foolish indeed who would attempt to sneer at that great centre of England's manufacturing industry. Human nature is I take it, much the same in Lancashire as elsewhere, and it is only natural that the men of Manchester have looked, do look, and will continue to look at their cotton duties from their point of view in the light of their own interests. I do not blame them for so doing, but I cannot admit that their interests and those of India are altogether so identical as my hon'ble friend seems to consider them. Identical they are of course, in as far as the interests of England are closely bound up in those of her greatest dependency; they are identical, in that the interests of two countries carrying on such a trade as that existing between England and India, cannot but be closely connected; they are no doubt identical in a sort of general way, but it is an identity which, although accepted, when stated in the abstract, becomes more difficult to conceive when one enters on details. Let me give an instance taken from the statement before the Council, where the interests of which we have been speaking are not identical. The hon'ble member in his statement has given a graphic sketch of the customs hedge, which runs across a great tract of Northern India, and has unsparingly pointed out its many evils. Abolish that hedge to-morrow, and no man in England will find himself happier or better off in any respect while in India from the very day of its abolition, harassment, extortion and petty tyranny would be saved to many. Then, again, Lancashire needs no help from here to fight her cause. The men of Manchester are strong and wealthy and united, they wield powerful political influence, and probably inspire more than any other body that pressing terror without the salutary influence of which the Secretary of State said a few weeks ago, when speaking to the associated Chambers of Commerce, he did not know what would become of the reform of Indian finance. I have, therefore, as I said before, always felt quite sure that the Manchester view of these cotton duties will be well pressed, and have therefore deemed it the more incumbent upon me to view them from the Indian stand point, to ascertain what was likely to be most equitable and beneficial to the people and trade of this country, and decide accordingly."

We honor Mr. Bullen Smith for thus boldly, generously and energetically vindicating the interests of the Indian people and Indian trade. The Maharaja Narendra Krishna expressed his satisfaction that the Government did not contemplate "the imposition of the obnoxious income tax to meet the deficiency." He pointed out that the financial reforms proposed by Sir John Strachey could not be carried out without a recourse to taxation, which could not but be deeply regretted. As for the general principles of finance and taxation enunciated by the Finance Minister, he remarked with great truth that "all principles should not necessarily be acted upon simply because they were good and sound without a due regard to their adaptability to the times and the circumstances of the people." He continued:

"The cotton industries, through the aid of steam machineries, just born in the different parts of India, required the fostering care of the British Government for their development; and it was on that account a matter of serious consideration whether the imposition of these duties would not stifle them at their birth, not to mention that it was still a doubtful question whether the particular customs duty was of a protective character. It was declared that an extension of the existing form of provincial taxation was to be made for carrying out improvements. The people, however, believe that their able and wise Lieutenant-Governor could devise means to raise twenty-seven lacs of rupees required for the carrying out of the proposed improvement more by the curtailment of expenditure and the development of the productive resources of the country, than by the extension of the existing taxes."

The Maharaja was the only member, who laid just stress on the necessity of enforcing economy. Mr. David Cowie regretted the Finance Minister's uncertain utterances about loans, and as for the customs duties, particularly the cotton duties, he remarked:

"When hearing the Hon'ble Sir John Strachey last week draw a picture, to which distance lent enchantment, of the day when the ports of this vast empire should be free to the commerce of the world, he thought it was somewhat Utopian but imagined he was only setting up a high standard of excellence of which, if not the whole, a part might some day be realised; but in his explanation of to-day he had removed all the varnish from that picture by stating that he was merely revelling in imagination. At his time of life he could not hope to see that consummation, but he very cordially trusted the hon'ble member may."

The sarcasm was complete. Mr. Hope was almost hopeless in his vapid nonsense about Public Works expenditure. Though reading his speech after luncheon, the refreshments had not evidently refreshed his mind, for in poring over his mudgy sheets he actually stumbled over more than once. He had however a rival in Sir Andrew Clarke, the Public Works Minister, who it would seem had suddenly risen from sleep. He unrolled a long scroll and galloped over rapidly enough, perhaps the rapidity was emblematic of the quickness with which the Department over which he presides with such masterly activity and efficiency spends money. A more dreary statement it never fell to our lot to hear. We had expected to have an exposition from Sir Andrew of the reforms which he had effected or contemplated, but his meaning was perhaps lost in the maze of words and figures. The Lieutenant Governor next spoke; His Honor's speech was the most logical, barring of course his allusions to taxation in Bengal which we notice in a separate article. The measured and forcible sentences to which His Honor gave utterance regarding Sir John Strachey's "pleasures of imagination," cannot fail to command the hearty assent of all right-thinking men. We wish we could give this part of His Honor's speech *in extenso*, but we are sorry that want of space forbids it. We will therefore content ourselves with one or two extracts. Adverting to Sir John Strachey's "visions of the future" His Honor said:

"Of course I could not say how far this pledge or this policy were the personal pledge and policy of my hon'ble friend, and indication of his individual resolve to advance with all the persistance and ability of which he is master, a theory of ideal taxation which has possessed his mind, as I am aware, for many years, or how far they were the outcome of a deliberate conclusion of the entire Government. I am delighted to find that the former hypothesis is the correct one, for I do not hesitate to say that immense mischief would have been done by an announcement that while pressing the Local Governments to tax the pettiest trader in the N.W.P., and throw increased burdens on the peasantry of Bengal, the Government of India had formed a deliberate conception of a financial policy which was not only to comply with the demands of the Manchester mill-owners but which was to lead up to an eventual abolition of the duties of the customs—in fact, to remit the one single form of taxation which presses upon European residents in India. I am glad now to find that Government has no such intention, and that my hon'ble friend fully recognises the impossibility of taking off any duties so long as they would have to be replaced by fresh taxation."

"For my own part I believe that there is no form of taxation so sound, so productive, and so little open to objection as the indirect revenue raised by duties of customs. My hon'ble friend has alluded to the large establishment which the collection of customs involves, spoken as if he thought it an irritating and wasteful form of taxation. But there is the simple fact that in the Custom House of Calcutta alone, a revenue of 3½ millions is collected at a cost of less than 3 per cent. It is paid by the bulk of the people without their being brought into contact with the tax collector, without their even knowing that any tax is raised. The peculiar fitness of customs duty as a main feature of Indian revenue, was most admirably described by the late Viceroy in the speech on the Tariff Bill in 1875. His arguments I believe to be quite unanswerable, and at all events no one has ever attempted to answer them."

As for the cotton duties His Honor remarked:

"I cannot regret too much that the question of the conflicting interests of England and India have been brought into the question. It is not, I agree with my hon'ble friend, a question of differing interests, for the only point of view from which I believe the Government of India can look at the matter is from a purely financial point of view. I hope the day is far distant when such questions shall in this country as unfortunately has been the case in other countries, be decided in favour of the larger interest which makes the most noise, and can make itself most heard and felt. What has to be considered is this, and this only—are these duties financially sound or unsound? Can the revenue which they produce be spared or not?

"I am of opinion that no sufficient reason has been given for believing that these duties are financially unsound from this point of view, and it is assuredly the case that Government is not in the position of having more money than it knows what to do with; and, therefore, it seems to me impossible for the Government to pledge itself to any course of action in respect to customs duties."

"Though I differ with my hon'ble friend on this point, I can quite understand that he has been carried away into sayings which have been better left unsaid. This theory of what I dare say he calls absolutely free trade has long been the prevailing idea of his mind. He has long been its

apostle in India, and he speaks I know from honest conviction, and I dare say he is quite unable to understand how any one of ordinary intelligence can fail to agree with him; but as a matter of fact, he will find that very few do agree with him, and if he find himself in advance of the age, he must, I think, be content to adapt his speed to that of the people whom he has to convince, and satisfy them that he is working for their good."

His Honor concluded by expressing a hope that "the result of this discussion will be to make him (Sir John Strachey) reflect very seriously before he attempts to carry his theories into effect." In giving expression to the above remarks Mr. Eden gave another proof of his warm and generous sympathy with the people. In winding up the debate His Excellency the Viceroy reserved his address till the next sitting of the Council, but took the earliest opportunity to corroborate the "explanatory statement" of Sir John Strachey. His Excellency had noticed rumours of additional taxation, the echoes of which "he detected in the observations of his hon'ble friend the Maharaja Narendra Krishna," echoes, which His Excellency said "though not faintly repeated, died away at last, and I hope for ever, in the speech of my hon'ble friend, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal." His Excellency the Viceroy thus concluded:

"I think, then, that I ought to repeat to the Council, with whatever authority my voice can give to it, the assurance already given by my hon'ble friend, Sir John Strachey, that we neither desire, nor intend, nor have we ever desired or intended, anything of the kind. What we do desire, and intend, is embodied in the two very simple Bills introduced by my hon'ble friend, Mr. Colvin; and it amounts to no more than this. We desire to give the earliest possible practical effect—an effect which shall operate as widely as it is at present in our power to extend its operation, to the principle that Local Governments shall be responsible, financially, for the maintenance and management of works which are of special local utility. Now, between this principle and any part of the Customs Tariff, there is no connection whatever that I am able to recognise. I do not wish to make, at the present moment, any observations on the cotton duties, further than this: that, if the present import duties on cotton goods were not five, but fifty, per cent.—if the whole of our sea customs revenue amounted to many more millions than it amounts to now—the principle to which I have referred would still, in our sincere belief, be an equally salutary principle, and its application would be equally necessary to place our finances in a sounder and better position than they now hold."

It is undoubtedly true that the Secretary of State has intimated to us in the despatch which was quoted by my hon'ble friend, Sir John Strachey, that however urgent might be the purgation of our tariff by the removal, or gradual reduction, of those duties, still, in his opinion, such a measure ought not to be contemplated by means of increased direct taxation for the purpose of effecting it. But before the Secretary of State had expressed that opinion, it had been expressed by the Government of India itself, and the Government of India which then expressed that opinion still holds it, and still desires to act on it."

In other words Lord Lytton will not reverse the policy of his predecessor. The result of the debate was thus highly satisfactory. It affords us great pleasure to observe that most of the points, which we noticed last week, found support or confirmation from one speaker or another on the Budget. We only wonder that the Members of Lord Northbrook's Government did not venture to open their lips—they were content with the eloquence of silence.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY RECANTS.

ALTHOUGH last week we were in the minority of one in the metropolitan press in protesting against the "oscillations and onslaughts," which characterized the budget speech of Sir John Strachey, it affords us great pleasure to notice that what we from a sense of duty wrote has not gone for nothing. The conduct of Sir John at the last sitting of the Governor General's Council was highly creditable to him. As a man of honor he readily and unreservedly retracted what he was convinced was an "aggression" upon the past administration, or what tended to commit the present Government. What we called "oscillations and onslaughts," Sir John with good humour called in the language of Mark Tapley "pleasures of imagination." He said that he had indulged in "pleasures of imagination" and did not mean to lay down the policy of the Government. We only wish that he had also indulged in the "pleasures of memory;" for if he had remembered what his predecessors had said on the same subject, above all what such a distinguished financier and statesman as the late Viceroy had said about it a year and a half ago, he would not, we dare say, have so wantonly committed himself. But if he did not indulge in the "pleasures of memory," we may now indulge in the "pleasures of hope." After the loud protests which rang in the marble hall of Government House on Wednesday last against the "impracticable theories" of Sir John, protests in which the non-official members, both European and native, took an active part, and in which they were joined by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and His Excellency the Viceroy, who though reserving his address on the Budget till the next meeting, took the earliest opportunity to declare that he had no intention to impose additional taxation to carry out the ideas of his Finance Minister, we are inspired with a fervent hope that "pleasures of imagination" will not be again repeated in such hard matters of fact and figure as the financial statement. Before the debate on the budget had actually commenced Sir John Strachey took occasion to explain himself on those points in which we discovered "oscillations and onslaughts." Alluding to what had fallen from Mr. Colvin in introducing the two North West Financial Bills, he said: "I had myself become aware that such an opinion had been expressed, and I wish to take the earliest opportunity which offers itself for removing any misunderstanding which may have arisen." He continued, "I must say, in the first place, that when I spoke about the possible future abolition of all customs duties in India, I perhaps did not state in a sufficiently unmistakeable way that I was giving my own personal opinion only. When I dipped into the future and saw the untaxed wares of the world pouring into free ports of India, I was indulging in the pleasures of my own imagination, and by no means proclaiming the intention of the Government to adopt hereafter the policy which I foreshadowed. The truth is that the subject has never been considered by the Government at all, nor has it been officially before the Government, so far as I know, in any shape whatever." He added; "The customs duties yield about 2½ millions a year, and it is clear that, under present circumstances, we could not abolish them without imposing heavy fresh taxation in their place, a course which would be, in my opinion, totally unjustifiable, and, indeed, preposterous. Even for the much smaller object of abolishing the cotton duties, there has never been any idea of imposing fresh taxation. The Secretary of State, in the last orders which he gave on the subject, distinctly said that, highly as he estimated the importance of removing these duties, he quite agreed with the Government of India in the opinion that it would be inexpedient to impose any new tax for such a purpose. Your Excellency, almost immediately after your arrival in India, spoke in public to the same effect." And he thus concluded:

"I wish now, my Lord, to take this opportunity of making a little personal confession. I am afraid that I am one of those people who are inclined to express their opinions in somewhat strong and plain language, and who do not always show sufficient consideration for the opinions of others. When I read over in cold blood the remarks which I made the other day about the cotton duties, I found in them an illustration of what I have now said. Considering that, only a year ago, Lord Northbrook, for whom, both on personal and public grounds, I have the highest regard and respect, and many of the Members of this Council towards whom I hold the same feelings, stated, on behalf of the Government of India opinions on this subject very different from my own, it would have been wiser, and in better taste, if my remarks had been couched in less aggressive language. I hope that if any member of the Council has felt this too, he will accept my present confession and apology."

It might be a question whether Sir John Strachey wrote or read over his budget-speech after delivery in more "cold blood." It was in type some days before it was delivered, and could it be consistently affirmed that the onslaughts or aggressions he committed were due to the impulse of the moment, which he regretted "in cold blood?" But let that pass. The confessions made are certainly very honorable to Sir John Strachey. It is evident that he does not set much value upon that sort of consistency, which means persistency in error. Being convinced that he had committed errors, and done wrong to those who had gone before him, he has at once made a full and frank apology. All honor to the man who cherishes such candour and courage.

In our last we remarked "that there is a marked oscillation in the financial policy of the Government as represented in the opinions of the Finance Minister on several important questions, and a covert attack or onslaught upon the past administrations conveyed through these opinions. Sir John has taken the unusual course of stating these opinions as his own, and thereby avoided the risk of committing the Government. How far this course is compatible with the well-understood rules of official etiquette it is for the head of the Government to consider; to us outsiders it appears that the individual opinions of the Finance Minister on debatable points, which are at variance with the recognized policy of Government, may be a source of embarrassment to Government. But the exposition, which His Excellency the Viceroy is expected to make on Wednesday next, will doubtless clear up this point. If the Government is prepared to carry out what Sir John Strachey proposes or suggests we fear a prospect of heavy additional taxation is before the country." The reader has seen from our notice of the Budget-debate that His Excellency the Viceroy took the earliest opportunity to repudiate the responsibility of the Government for the opinions expressed by the Finance Minister. His Excellency in effect said that nothing was farther from his thought than that the people of India should be burdened with additional taxation for the sake of benefitting the cotton lords of Manchester. Nothing could be more forcible and logical than the remarks of Mr. Bullen Smith and the Lieutenant Governor on this important question. Both of them spoke strongly and shewed clearly that the interests of Manchester and India were not quite identical in this matter. Mr. Bullen Smith said that the relief which would be given to the Indian consumer by the repeal of the duty on Manchester goods would be infinitessimally small compared with the burdens which must fall upon him, if fresh taxation be imposed to replace the revenue, which must be sacrificed by the abandonment of the duty. Mr. Eden said that it would be embarrassing to the Government if while a tax was being imposed on the traders of the North West and on the peasantry of Bengal the duty on cotton goods should be remitted because Manchester could make the greatest noise in England. We had hoped that those naked truths would lead Sir John Strachey to give up altogether his "visions of the future." But no, he seems to cast still a longing—lingering look behind. He observed: "I endeavoured, in my Financial Statement, to show that while the total expenditure of the Empire showed no tendency to increase, every great source of income had been steadily advancing; that the total net revenue in 1875-76, the last year for which we have complete accounts, was more than two millions sterling in excess of what it had been seven years before, and that it had increased at an average rate of about £300,000 a year. Considering that the total amount of the cotton duties is only £850,000, and that only gradual remission is aimed at, there is nothing sanguine in the anticipation that we shall soon be able to take a first step in dealing with them." It will be thus seen that Sir John is still harping upon the repeal of the cotton duties. He forgets that this very year he has not been able to restore an equillibrium between income and expenditure without a recourse to taxation, call it by what name you like. And if the husbandmen of the resources of the state in future years should enable the Finance Minister to effect a saving, surely he ought to give first a relief to the springs of industry and trade in the country, which has maintained him for the last thirty years, and to which he owes his present high position. He should first sweep away the inland customs line which he himself admitted was a relic of barbarism, before he should think of repealing the duty on Manchester goods, which does not fall with any appreciable pressure upon the people. The question was put on the shelf by Lord Northbrook for reasons the most cogent and practical, and we hope it will not be hurriedly brought down again into the arena of practical politics.

BENGAL IN THE NEW BUDGET.

THE Easter present, which Sir John Strachey has made to Bengal, is a heavy bill of taxation. The Lieutenant Governor has apparently received it not without an effort, for no one can be

more averse to lay additional burdens upon the people of Bengal than the Hon'ble Ashley Eden, who as Secretary to the Bengal Government, under Sir William Grey, the reader might remember, had fought tooth and nail against the imposition of the road cess. It is most unfortunate that in the very commencement of his reign he should be called upon to tax the people committed to his charge, and with whom he has identified himself for the last quarter of a century through good report and evil report. But he must pay the penalty of his position. The Supreme Government has ruled that Bengal must make good about one-third of a million for the relief of the imperial exchequer, and it is Mr. Eden's duty to obey it loyally. But the people of Bengal cannot be blamed, if they cry when they are struck. If pay they must, they will pay under a protest; that protest may not have any immediate effect, but it will remain as a record of the injustice done to Bengal. As we have over and over said Bengal yields the largest amount of revenue; its provincial expenditure is not even one-third of its gross income; if deductions from its receipts were made from the opium and customs revenues, to which the other provinces may legitimately lay some claim, the surplus left would more than cover its tribute to the Central Government for protection and imperial administration, and yet it is the only province on which the heaviest burden is to be laid. In fact Bengal is to be as it all along has been the milch-cow of the empire. Bengal had in times past supplied the sinews of war to the East India Company in extending dominion over the Indian continent; Bengal had borne the lion's share in contributing to the cost of recovering and consolidating the empire after the Sepoy Mutiny; Bengal pays more in the shape of indirect taxes than any other province; and Bengal is to be burdened with the largest amount of local taxation. So the more Bengal yields in revenue, the more must it be made to pay. This is justice, this is fair play. The Permanent Settlement by alienating the increase of the land revenue has alienated the sympathy of that school of Indian economists and administrators, who look to the pauperization of the people by the process of the land settlement as the highest triumph of English financering and statesmanship. The mournful result is that however bitter may be the cries of Bengal they meet with little or no sympathy in the cold hearts of these officials.

The situation, which Mr. Eden has been forced to accept, is this. The charges for the maintenance of the Canals in Bengal, so the Government of India has ruled, must be henceforward borne by the local Government, and as it has not given the necessary ways and means, the local Government must find them in the best manner it can. The Lieutenant Governor said that in pursuing this object he hoped "to avoid any new form or method of taxation." We believe His Honor contemplates to double the Road Cess, that is to say to impose a Local Public Works' rate not exceeding half an anna in the rupee on the principle of the Road Cess, one pice being paid by the zemindar or superior landlord, and the other by the ryot, and to levy a compulsory irrigation rate in those districts in which the canals are in existence. The whole burden will thus fall upon the land. The trading and monied classes will escape altogether. In the North West a license tax on trades and dealings is proposed on the ground that the traders contribute very little to the maintenance of works, which benefit them so much, while in Bengal the opposite principle is to be followed. But let that pass. When an enlightened Government, which professes to rule in the light of public opinion, imposes a tax, it is expected that it would satisfy those, who are burdened with it, that the principle on which the tax is levied is at any rate defensible. Now, we ask is the principle on which the cost of the maintenance of the Orissa and Sone Canals is thrown on the local Government sound or just? We fully recognize the fact, to which His Honor the Lieutenant Governor drew attention, "that Government has no alternative between perpetual financial difficulty and a permanent increase of its revenues and their re-establishment on a safe basis." But the question is why should Bengal be singled out to bear the burden primarily? If the necessities of the State require the imposition of fresh taxes, why ignore the broad general fact, and seek to hide it by arbitrarily throwing upon the local Government the cost of the canals, and then urging it to meet it by local taxation? Is this cost a legitimate charge upon the province? We deny it. Mr. Eden said, "that Bengal has, in her own calamity, had much reason to be thankful for the ready aid offered to her in the time of her need, and will not grudge her contribution in aid of other provinces now suffering from a similar trouble." If this is the real issue, Bengal would not grudge to bear her share of the burden in common with the other provinces, but Sir John Strachey has not been so frank or straightforward on this point as Mr. Eden has been. On the contrary Sir John has not only thrown dust into the eyes of the public, but has introduced a principle of local finance, which is calculated to lead to progressive local taxation. Accepting this principle Mr. Eden said, "if we are to keep up a supply of water for the use of the people of particular parts of the country specially exposed to droughts, and to make this water always available to them to use or leave unused, as the seasons may make it convenient to them, we must make them pay for the certainty of a sufficient quantity of water for agricultural purposes which is thus assured to them." But Mr. Eden has kept out of sight the most important element in the consideration of this subject. If the canals are really beneficial, they are sure to pay themselves. But Mr. Eden candidly admits that "we inherited two great schemes—the Orissa and Sone schemes—from a private Company, the whole works are on an extravagant and wasteful scale, and though in the course of a few years the Sone scheme may, with a compulsory rate, be made to pay its own way, the Orissa works never can pay." When such is the case is it just that the people of the districts or the province should be made to pay for the follies or errors of the Imperial Government, which had taken over the works. They had not been consulted when the Government favoured the English companies, and because it finds them now unremunerative is it reasonable or just to shift the burden upon the inhabitants of the province, who from a geographical accident reside in it? We can well understand that no personal responsibility can be enforced upon the Government of India—we wish it could be—but the cost of its mistakes ought to be borne by the whole empire and not by one or two provinces. Mr. Eden said, "though it is unfair that the people of one province should pay for the works of this class constructed in another province, the same objection does not exist to the imposition of a general rate on a province in aid of certain districts of the same province. The whole province must be treated as a unit, and it is no doubt true that a whole province benefits by anything which is close to it, and improves a large portion of it" The first premises we venture to think is not correct, for far from benefitting the whole province, the canals in question scarcely confer adequate benefit upon the districts concerned, and in so far these districts are benefitted they already bear the cost in the price the cultivators pay for the water. His Honor continued: "If it were not for these irrigation works, the time might well come again, as it has come before when the whole of Bengal may be called upon to suffer for the misfortunes of Orissa and Behar, and therefore the whole of Bengal may very well be called upon to pay a light tax as an insurance against such risk." If it could be an insurance it would be some argument, but experience shews that water cannot be insured in sufficient quantities when it is most needed, that is in a season of drought. This question of an insurance rate was discussed by Sir George Campbell and he thus wrote in his last administration report: "As regards the saving of life, the fever which has so often accompanied the canals must be taken into account. It may well be doubted whether the Ganges Canal most saves life or destroys it. Sir George Campbell had hoped that deltaic canals were free from this scourge, but he has lately seen that there are complaints of fever caused by the Godavery Canals also." Such being the case we submit that the principle on which this insurance rate is proposed to be levied is not quite convincing. When the Road Cess was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, His Grace the Duke of Argyll wrote as follows:

"It is, of course, essential that the Government of India should be itself satisfied that it is breaking no faith in any measure it may take; but next to the necessity of this assurance is the necessity, or at least the great importance, of making the same conclusion plain to the apprehensions of the people. For this purpose it is, above all things, requisite that the benefits to be derived from the rates should be brought home to their doors,—that these benefits should be palpable, direct, immediate."

Can this be predicated of the proposed Public Works rate and irrigation rate? When the people of the whole province are called upon to pay a public works rate, can it be pretended that the benefits to be derived from the rate will be brought home to their doors—that these benefits will be palpable, direct, and immediate? The same remarks apply to a compulsory irrigation rate. It cannot be creditable to the Government that it should change its principles of finance and taxation under every stress of circumstances. How can the people have confidence in the policy of the Government, if it varies with varying circumstances? The people of Bengal are fully alive to their loyal duty to bear the burdens of the State, but they have a right to demand that these burdens should be based on just, fair, and righteous principles.

THE LICENSE TAX FOR THE N. W. P.

WE HAVE already said that we cannot assent to the principle that the charge for the maintenance of canals in particular provinces should be borne by the people of those provinces, irrespective of actual consumption of water by them. It is right and proper that those who take the water should pay for it, but the payment should be voluntary. If they do not take the water, they ought not to be made to pay for the same. But the principle which Sir John Strachey has enunciated and which the Governor General in Council has accepted is this—that as regards the North-Western Provinces the voluntary rate shall continue, but that in order to make up the deficiency of revenue for the canals a license tax should be levied from the general body of traders. On what principle this tax upon the traders is to be levied we cannot understand? If it be argued that practically this tax would be paid by the consumers, who benefit by the facilities offered by the canals for cultivation and transport of agricultural produce, then the voluntary rate paid by the cultivator is indirectly paid by the consumer, and is he to be required to pay twice for the same thing? If on the other hand it be urged as it was urged that the non-agricultural population do not make any contribution for local purposes, this is not strictly correct. We find from the last administration report of the North Western Provinces that out of a total income of Rs. 15,93,954 raised for municipal purposes the sum of Rs. 15,12,997, is collected by octroi and license tax, that is to say Rs. 14,15,592, by octroi and Rs. 96,795 by a license tax. And yet it is said that the non-agricultural population makes little or no contributions for local purposes. The octroi is levied in 72 towns as under:

	Towns		Towns
Meerut Division ...	23	Benares Division ...	6
Agra Do ...	16	Jhansi Do ...	5
Rohilcund Do ...	16	Kumaun Do ...	2
Allahabad Do ...	4	Total...	72

The license tax is levied in 9 towns.

We now come to the License Tax Bill. It is not proposed to exempt from the new tax the places which are already subject to the octroi or to a license tax. The traders of those places would be thus subject to a double tax. It is true that the local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, may exempt from the operation of the Act any portion of the territories subject to such Government or any class of trade or dealings falling under the schedule. If the object of this provision be to authorize the local Government to exempt from the new tax towns, which are already subject to the octroi and license tax, it ought to be clearly stated in the law. But we fear that cannot be the object of the Legislature, for it cannot be

expected to sacrifice a revenue of more than 15 lacs from the octroi. The schedule to the Bill is thus set forth :

		Fee payable by licensee.
Bankers	First grade ...	Rs. 64
Wholesale-dealers in country-produce	Second ,, ...	,, 32
	Third ,, ...	,, 19

CLASS II.

		Fee payble by licensee.
Cloth-sellers		
Dealers in iron		
Metal vessel-sellers ...		
Fuel-sellers (talwalas)		
Chondhris	First grade ...	Rs. 32
Agents	Second ,, ...	,, 16
Letters-out of conveyances and cattle	Third ,, ...	,, 5
Contractors (thikadars ..		
Printers and publishers ..		

CLASS III.

Persons carrying on any trades or dealings not above specified.	First grade ...	Rs. 16
	Second ,, ...	,, 8
	Third ,, ...	,, 4
	Fourth ,, ...	,, 2

It will seen from the above that while the poorest traders are to be taxed, persons who are engaged in professions, and make hundreds and thousands of rupees by the month, are not touched at all. No class of persons we believe have benefited more than the lawyers and doctors, and yet they are let off, while all traders and dealers, whose net earnings are under Rs. 200, are subjected to the new tax. Is this the case because their inclusion would include the Europeans ? The Bill is so arranged that very few Europeans would be touched by it. Then again the classification is so made that some of the most thriving dealers and traders are excluded, such for instance as commission agents, builders, owners of markets and hats, owners of cotton screws, hotel-keepers, pawn-brokers, money-lenders and liquor vendors. It may be said that these traders or dealers may be included under class III., but the assessment in that case will not be equitable. If a trade tax is to be levied, let it be levied upon all alike and upon an equitable principle. Again, we do not think it is sound in principle to convert the license tax into a quasi income tax. Section II. of the Bill says that any person dissatisfied with an assessment may apply by petition to the Collector in order to establish his right to have his name transferred to another class or grade or altogether removed from the list. It is then provided that the Collector shall pass such order as to him shall seem fit :

Provided that if in his judgment the fee which the petitioner has been charged exceeds two per cent. upon his annual nett earnings, such excess shall, for the purpose of section eleven, be deemed a valid objection :

Provided also that if in the judgment of the Collector the nett annual earnings of the petitioner are less than two hundred rupees, the petitioner's name shall be removed from the list.

It will be thus seen that the tax assumes to all intents and purposes the character of an income tax. It is true that there will be no inquisitorial enquiry, but the onus will be thrown upon the assessee, and he must disclose his profits, if he be dissatisfied with the assessment made. This we think is not fair.

THE CALCUTTA UNIVERISITY.

AT the last meeting of the University Senate several important questions were taken into consideration, and resolutions arrived at regarding some of them, which will materially affect the progress of medical education in this country. The first question taken up was the propriety of maintaining the senior and junior University scholarships for the best B. M. students. Those prizes greatly helped indigent students to prosecute their studies to the M. D. standard ; but the Government having declined to continue the grant for the purpose, they were ordered to be discontinued. An attempt was made to support them from the surplus of the University Funds ; it was argued that as the income of the University now amounted to over 55,000 Rs. and the expenses were limited to only Rs. 50,000, it would be well to devote a part of the excess to the scholarships which entailed an expenditure of Rs. 2,500 only ; but as the Syndicate had already resolved otherwise, it met with but scanty support. Some lengthy speeches followed on the subject of admitting women to the Arts Examinations, and the matter was referred to the Faculty of Arts for report. The propriety of doing away with the certificates now required from candidates to show that they had reasonable prospect of passing the different examinations was next taken up. Originally no such certificates were required, and the result, it was supposed, was that a large number of candidates came forward, who were utterly unfit to pass, and who unnecessarily entailed labour on the examiners, and created a public scandal. It was expected that certificates from heads of schools and colleges, who were familiar with the capacity of their pupils, would put a stop to this ; but of late the so-called scandal had greatly increased ; instead of one-half about one-third of the candidates passed, and two-thirds were plucked. On the assumption that the examiners had not failed in their duty, the inevitable inference was that either the heads of colleges granted certificates without caution, or they were unable to judge properly. The assumption, however, was not tenable. It was impossible to believe that men like Mr. Sutcliffe or Rev. Jardine, who granted a large number of certificates, were less able to judge the merits of their pupils, whom they daily taught and with whom they were perfectly familiar, than the examiners, who got through a large mass of examination papers, amounting not often to two or three thousand sheets in ten days, and pronounced upon their merits. And, notwithstanding the assurances of the Vice-Chancellor to the contrary, the outside public naturally concluded that there was at least a want of accord between the heads of colleges and the examiners, as to the standards fixed, and that the examiners were indirectly raising them. Bickerings between heads of departments and the examiners, though not loud, were also becoming deep, and the Senate, by setting aside their certificates, have removed a *prima facie* proof of great weight against the examiners, and left the helpless candidates to bear alone the blame of failure, which has hitherto been shared by the heads of colleges. Now, the examiners will be able to enforce any standard they fix at their own sweet will, possibly with reference to particular lectures or text-books which they may like to patronise, and at the same time profess to carry out the rules of the University. On the recommendation of the Faculty of Medicine the Senate next resolved that the course for Botany be reduced from 40 to 20 lectures. The ostensible reason assigned was the necessity of relief for the pupils who were already overburthened by other subjects ; but this was contradicted by an order from the Bengal Government in which a desire to extend the course of chemistry was the reason assigned. The real object appeared to be to relieve the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens of a part of his tutorial duties. The necessity of inspecting the Cinchona gardens at Rungbi, and other outdoor work, took that officer away from Calcutta for many months in the year, and there was no one to take his place in the professorial chair, and Sir Richard Temple thought that the best way to solve the difficulty was to reduce the course of lectures. As there is no other institution on this side of India where Botany is taught to any useful extent, the resolution amounts to the total abolition of the study of Botany in Bengal. We use the word "total" deliberately, for a course of twenty lectures to a pupil who has to study for five years, amounts to one lecture or one hour every three months, and none short of an Admirable Chrichton can at all benefit from such teaching. To prove that the alleged was not the real reason, one of the speakers urged that if relief were really needed for the pupils the proper course would be to reduce the number of lectures on that subject which was the least useful, and not that which was of the utmost importance in a country, the richest in its flora, which only needed scientific knowledge to develope its boundless botanical resources. At present no practitioner, brought up in an Anglo-Indian school, can treat a single case without having recourse to European and foreign drugs, and yet valuable substitutes for those drugs are available in every jungle in Bengal The least needed branch of study to a medical practitioner, he urged, was zoology, which was never thought of as a necessary branch of medical study until ten years ago, when a lecturer was found to take up the task gratis, or as a part of his duties in connexion with the Indian Museum. He urged, that notwithstanding its value as a help to physiological researches, compared to Botany zoology contributed but little towards the treatment of diseases. It did certainly produce, what Lord Lytton so aptly described as, "fly-catchers," men poring over the orders and genera of maggots and minnows, studying the different varieties and species of madripores and tubipores, but it did not enable a student to distinguish a useful drug from a useless one, or to effectually combat with the many ailments which human flesh is subject to. Forty lectures on zoology and twenty on Botany was therefore quite disproportionate. The lecturer on zoology, however, was, by the nature of his official duties, required to remain permanently in Calcutta, and his services were were always available, whereas those of the Professor of Botany were needed elsewhere, and therefore the useful had to yield to the ornamental, and the interest of medical students and of the public had to go to the wall. We regret that the Faculty of Medicine should have yielded to such a measure of expediency, and that there was not one professional gentleman at the Senate meeting to raise his voice against the subserviency which the resolution implied. When the Faculty of Arts yielded to the hobby of Sir George Campbell, and declared that proficiency in handling plotting scales and surveying chains was absolutely necessary for Indian students, who sought liberal education, we thought we had seen the worst of subserviency ; but we were mistaken.

THE FEVER COMMISSION.

THE more we think about the dreadful ravages committed by the epidemic fever in this country, the more we feel that if such a calamity had occurred in any other country, and if the Government had neglected to arrest its fatal course, it would have rendered itself liable to a national impeachment. The efforts of single individuals in England have achieved wonders in fighting the cause of humanity. A Howard, a Zachary Macaulay, a Wilberforce, a Buxton, a Nightingale, a Greenwood, have done more for the relief of human suffering than whole masses of men or women put together, but in England the exertions of single individuals are seconded by the whole nation. In India there is so much *vis inertia* in the people that no single individual, however earnest or devoted, can do anything, unless the Government lends the weight of its authority to any question. Since 1864 Raja Degumber Mitter has been agitating the question of the epidemic fever, which has decimated some of the fairest parts of Bengal, but what is the result—talkee, talkee, talkee ! One Lieutenant Governor after another passed away, each apparently convinced of the truth he has been preaching, but practically doing nothing. For instncee Sir Richard Temple in his Administration Report for 1873-74 thus noticed the subject :

"As the causation of the disease, another year's experience seems to have confirmed the opinion of most medical officers who have studied the question, that the fever is a paludal or malarious fever, only of an unusually intense and fatal character. But, with a view to finally determining, if possible the real nature of this fever, Government has this year directed a special inquiry to be made into it, and a very competent officer of high scientific attainments has been appointed to conduct it. As he will be aided by the great experience of Dr. French, it is to be hoped that some conclusive results one way or other will be arrived at."

And what was the opinion of this "very competent officer of high scientific attainments," to wit, Dr. Wilkie ? We give it below :

"I believe that what was wrong with Hooghly and Burdwan in the fever years was the retention, in the surface soil above the clay of moisture which ought to have been got rid of more quickly. In an ordinary year you have the rains, the consequent moistures of this surface soil, and the subsequent evaporation of the moisture with fever, until the soil, by evaporation and natural drainage, becomes dry. In a *jor bekar* year the same thing exactly went on ; but, as there was an obstruction to the natural drainage, the greater part of the moisture had to be got rid of by evaporation alone ; so that the whole layer of surface soil became damp sooner, evaporation began sooner and went on longer, and fever began sooner and went on longer. In fact, the most favorable conditions for the production of malaria were present, and their existence was unusually prolonged. As a natural result the consequences of malaria were produced in a more intense form, in greater abundance, and for a longer period. Observa-

tions, such as those of Doctor Jackson. on the dryness of the soil to great depths in January, February and March, prove nothing at all, except that the soil is dry in non-fever months. However saturated the soil may have been in previous months, it cannot but be dry by that time under ordinary circumstances, because evaporation has been going on rapidly for months from the whole surface of the country, and the supply of moisture is not unlimited. No amount of obstruction to the drainage could keep the soil of Bengal moist throughout the year, unless frequent or heavy rains were superadded The remarks of the writer of the *Hindoo Patriot's* fever articles on this subject are to the same effect. In February 1872 there had been no rain for three months. and in February 1873 only 0·12 inches for three months. I have nowhere been able to find any mention of dry soil in villages in which the *jor bekar* was actually present at the time."

Dr. French wrote :

Why does the fever die out in some places, and why is it now apparently dying out in Burdwan?

By this dying out, we are not to assume that after a certain number of years, the village returns to its former healthy state. There is no such thing as this dying out. Chronic diseases, or the sequelæ of the fever remain for many years after the cessation of the severe type of fever. During last rains I visited Purbustholi, where the fever first (1862) broke out, and was very much disappointed by finding considerable sickness in the place, although the villagers have long since ceased to complain. There were a good many cases of fever, and 30.41 per cent. of the children had spleen. In Santgatchia, where there had been a lull for three years, the fever again broke out in 1874, and 54·17 per cent. of the children were suffering from spleen. In Nundhanhat (Purbustholi Thana) 15·23 per cent., in Maksoompara 13·72 per cent., and in Manikbar (ulna) 24·76 per cent. of the children had spleen. These places have been described as those in which the fever" has passed and gone."

Again :

Why sickness has prevailed for so long a time, and to such an extent in Burdwan town, Jehanabad, Munglecote, &c. is, probably, owing to the fact that these places were densely populated. and the people for years lived under the most insanitary conditions, or those most unfavorable to health.

Although the fever has now considerably abated, and exclusive Government aid is no longer necessary or advisable, yet I do not believe that we have seen the last of the Burdwan Fever. It will appear again, and, in fact, does annually appear in many villages in other districts in Bengal, *for it is nothing more than an exaggeration, or intense type of the ordinary endemic fever in Lower Bengal, which. at certain times. and under certain conditions, becomes epidemic and deadly.*

Thus there was a consensus of opinion as to the causation, of the fever, and yet we are to have an enquiry into it *de novo*. How long will precious time be thus lost? The situation in the epidemic districts is most lamentable. Hundreds and thousands have been carried away by death, and the survivors are more or less in a state of chronic suffering. To us all schemes of progress, improvement, and civilization seem to be a mockery of humanity, when disease and death are rampant in the country without let or hindrance. If, as Sir Richard Temple says in his first administration report, and as admitted by all medical authorities, the fever met with in the epidemic districts is malarious in its character, and if it is only an aggravation of the fever, which endemically prevails in the country after the close of the periodical rains—nothing can be more certain than the fever in its aggravated form must be owing to an aggravation of the cause, which ushers it every year in an endemic or mild form viz, superabundance of moisture in the soil. This superabundance Dr. Wilkie says is caused by obstruction to the natural drainage of the villages, and the consequence is that what under the normal condition of the country was got rid of by evaporation and natural drainage, has where the drainage is impeded to be eliminated by evaporation alone. "As a natural result," Dr. Wilkie observes, "the consequences of malaria were produced in a more intense form, in greater abundance and for a longer period." This opinion, which will commend itself to every rational enquirer, is fully subscribed to by Dr. French, who to eminent scientific attainments added the advantage of personal enquiry and observation in the locale of the disease for a number of years.

But all this seems to have gone for nothing in the estimation of Sir Richard, who at the twelfth hour ordered an enquiry *de novo*.

Is it to be for a moment believed that Sir Richards' Committee as it is constituted is more competent to form an opinion on the subject than Drs. French and Wilkie, and many others, who have been engaged in the investigation during the last fourteen years—and we would respectfully ask on what grounds should their opinions be so summarily set aside ?

We cannot help saying that the question has never received the attention of Government to that degree, which its *vital* importance demands : In the acute stage of the epidemic fever when from thirty or forty per cent. of the population of a village is carried off in the course of two or three months, some notice of it is taken, but when the acute stage passes away, the fever is said to have worn out and no further action is taken. This is the chronic policy of the Government in dealing with this chronic malady. We have already quoted Dr. French, who holds that there is no dying out of the fever. Such being the case we appeal to the Hon'ble Mr. Eden to consider whether the appointment of the Commission, the last act of Sir Richard Temple as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, to make a fresh enquiry into the cause of the fever, does not look like a trifling with the subject, which is a question of life and death with millions ?

A WHITE PAMPHLET.

This is a counter-part of the Black Pamphlet, though the scene is laid in a different part of the country. The object of the writer, who calls himself a "Sojourner," is to elucidate, but not to attack the policy of Government. We have neither time nor space to discuss the many points, which he has put forward in an interesting array, but we will notice one question, which he has argued with much common sense and force, we mean the supply of food by Government. The Secretary of State, says the writer, in his published despatch dated the 12th January last, would appear to express some doubts as to the wisdom of prohibiting the importation and sale of food-grains by Government agency. He endorses that policy only if there are good grounds for supposing that the deficiency is not so great that traders will be unable to meet it ; if it is so great, it is "the only means by which a dearth of food can be prevented." It is also important to note, in connection with this matter, that the Secretary of State entertains much uneasiness as to the "consequences of imperfect communication in districts which cover so wide an area, and some of which lie at so great a distance from the lines of railway." Now, Sir Richard Temple, in a minute dated the 19th January 1877, writes "rather than send grain to work-people, I would prefer, if possible, to bring work-people, to the grain." The "Sojourner" says, "but, even is this policy advisable in the case of work-people, which may be considered very doubtful, there are many others who will not be included in that class, but will require to have grain made available for them to purchase." The writer with great truth observes, "practically, to carry himself to the grain, a native ryot, who is of a stage above that class of 'work-people' in the social scale, will never do, so long as he has a roof to shelter him or a brass pot to barter. Often and often will it happen, that those thus suddenly thrown on reduced circumstances will too long cling perversely to a maintenance of independence, and, only when too late, will crawl to the earth-works or ask for charity. It is such people who would all be kept from the final stage of want by making grain procurable at prices, high indeed, but possible." The question is whether in such retired localities, private trade can be left to itself. Non-interference, as the "Sojourner" remarks, may do well for a time, but the time is a short one ; prices will rise immensely ; for a while, nothing will be said ; suddenly it is found that at the prevailing rates, or then, perhaps at hardly any rates, the mass of the people have no purchasing power left ; it is seen that many of them are greatly reduced ; multitudes are no longer able to give a fair day's work for their pay ; multitudes can no longer work at all ; the Government hastens to their aid, but it is only by purchases hastily effected at high rates, by lavish offers to attract means of carriage, by a vast amount of charitable relief, by the exaction of a very small modicum of labour from those whose relief is not altogether charitable, and by large sales at a low rate to the rest of the community, that a terrible disaster can be avoided. The teachings of all past famines are in accord with this theory. There were in the Behar famine vast tracts along the Nepal frontier into which private trade, active though it was all along the line of railway, never penetrated. There were multitudes who, by the time relief began to reach them in April, had sunk into a condition from which it required months of charitable or semi-charitable relief to rescue them, and for whom relief in that form would have been but slightly required, had grain been made available for purchase at moderately high rates some two months sooner." We agree with the writer. We cannot move the people *en masse* to relief centres ; food must be brought within their easy reach. The best test of famine suffering is the high price of food. The writer says that when the price reaches three times the normal rate, it is famine and no mistake. For our part we think that double the price is almost prohibitory to most of the agricultural and laboring population. But let us take his test. He says : "It is impossible for Government to control any extensive famine more thoroughly and more economically than by insuring that, in not even the most out-of-the-way tract of country, will the price of grain be allowed to stand higher than three times its ordinary figure. That would appear to be the outside limit. It shows such an absence of adequate private trade that, before the food of the people has exceeded three times the ordinary price of a prosperous season, it is imperative on the Government, as the only sure means of avoiding a disaster, to make at all events preliminary arrangements for stepping in as a grain dealer. Before that limit has been materially exceeded, the Government sales should have commenced ; they should be conducted at a fixed rate, which should be about three times the prevailing rate in an ordinary year. The Government stores should, by a steady adherence to that rate, be closed the moment grain is elsewhere locally obtainable at a cheaper price." But the Government has not followed this course in the present crisis in all places, and hence we fear the disasters which have already overtaken the famine-stricken population.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

His Excellency the Viceroy leaves the capital on the night of the 2nd proximo.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in the Budget-debate in the Vice-regal Council on Wednesday last was the attention shewn to the visitors by His Excellency the Viceroy. The debate lasted five hours, but after the Council adjourned for luncheon at 2 P. M. the amiable Private Secretary of the Viceroy, Col Burne, asked the visitors to tiffin. Especial arrangements were made for the entertainment of the native visitors in native style, and some of the chief Hindu officers of Government House were in attendance upon them. Nothing could exceed the courtesy and attention shewn by these native officers to the native visitors. This was the first time native gentlemen were provided with refreshments in Hindu style at Government House. The age is progressing.

We believe the Government of Bengal proposes to raise the sum of 27 ½ lacs, which it has been required by the Government of India to make good under the new Decentralization scheme, by imposing a Local Works Rate on the principle of the Road Cess at the rate of two pice in the rupee, and a compulsory Irrigation Cess. Two Bills will be introduced in the Bengal Council on Saturday next to give effect to these proposals. We have discussed in another column the principles of the proposed measures. We believe these measures are intended to be tentative only, inasmuch as the burden will now fall on the land alone, a future opportunity may be taken to distribute the incidence of the tax. Bengal will doubtless loyally bear the burden, though it cannot admit the justice of making it pay when its contributions to the imperial exchequer exceed that of any other province.

The numbers on the relief works in the famine-stricken districts of Madras and Bombay are thinning. The Government continues to publish *color de rose* reports, but the local papers teem with sad tales of starvation, disease, and death. The *Englishman* publishes a telegram from Bombay, from which it appears that no less than 14,000 immigrants have come to the western capital

in search of food, of whom 3,500 are said to be "dying of crowding and privations."

WE ARE glad to observed that the Government is in earnest in encouraging local manufactures. The Government of Bengal has appointed a Committee to consider and report on the following points:

st,—What articles required by the various public departments under this Government could and should be obtained by local manufacture instead of being procured from Europe?

2*nd*,—What description of articles to be obtained from Europe should be procured through the Secretary of State, and what by local arrangement.

3*rd*,—What rules and restrictions should be laid down in regard to obtaining articles from Europe by local arrangements?

The Government has also invited the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce, the British Indian Association, and the Traders' Association.

APROPOS of the appointment of Mr. Justice Markby as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University two of our morning contemporaries name Dr. Rajendralala Mitra as the most eligible person for that distinguished office. The *Englishman* says, "the post we think might much more fitly have been bestowed upon some distinguished native scholar—such, for instance, as Dr. Rajendralala Mitra." The *Statesman* says: "It would be a graceful compliment to Dr. Rajendralal Mitra who, as a scholar, has a European reputation, and it would be an honour to the native community were the post conferred on him. If the suggestion comes too late for this occasion, we hope it will not be forgotten." This expression of opinion is highly gratifying to the native community. But we would prefer to an empty honor a more substantial recognition of the rare merits and signal services of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. He would be in his element as Minister of Education.

ADVERTING to the approaching retirement of Mr. V. H. Schalch a correspondent of the *Englishman* writes:

"This is not the place to attempt a *resumé* of the services of the above gentleman. It is sufficient to say that occupying for a lengthened period one of the highest positions in Bengal that of Senior Member of the Board of Revenue, Mr. Schalch has for a period still longer been most intimately connected with this city as Member of the Legislative Council for Bengal, Chairman of the Bank of Bengal, Chairman of the Justices, and Chairman of the Port Commissioners. Under him were originated, and partly carried out, the grand schemes of a drainage system and water-supply, by which Calcutta has so largely benefitted; while it is not too much to say that he has been the mainspring of all the vast improvements which have been effected, and are still being carried out in the Port of Calcutta."

"If real, honest, hard, and good work for the public weal deserve recognition, then the citizens of Calcutta will honor themselves in according HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

We entirely concur. A public dinner would be an appropriate compliment to Mr. Schalch, and the merchants, who have benefited so much by his labors, ought to take the initiative. We hope some arrangement will be made to give the native community an opportunity to join the proposed demonstration.

WE ARE SORRY that we could not for want of space notice ere this the further papers on the cyclone and storm-wave in Backergunge on the 31st October last. We are exceedingly glad to learn that terrible as the loss of human life has been, the Collector has, after careful enquiry, arrived at the conclusion that it is one-half of what it was at first estimated to be, and that, in the district of Backergunge, it was more likely to be 52,500 than 105,000 as originally supposed. The Lieutenant Governor hopes that time will show that even this figure is excessive, and that persons will gradually return to the district, who have left it in a panic after the great calamity by which their homes were overwhelmed, and who are still among the missing. We are also glad to learn that the stock of cattle in the district is gradually being renewed. The actual expenditure incurred in the district on account of relief measures appears to amount to Rs. 22,023-2-10. Independently of the above amount, a sum of Rs. 12,718 was subscribed from private sources to afford charitable relief in Backergunge. For this the people of the district, His Honor remarks, were mainly indebted to the liberality of Nawab Abdool Ghani Bahadoor, C.S.I., who has considerable estates in Backergunge, and to the Maharanee Surnomoyee of Cossimbazar. We hope the instructions of Government for the postponement of Government kists in exceptional cases have been carried out. We are glad to see that the Government has withdrawn the original orders to apply the private subscriptions to the recoupment of Government outlay.

AN ARTIST of European fame is amongst us. Mr. Marshall Wood of European and American reputation has come to Calcutta with two of his master-pieces, Daphnœ and the Queen. We did ourselves the pleasure of seeing both last week, and it was really a feast for the eyes. The classic charms of the two statues cannot be described in adequate terms.

We feel directly interested in the Statue of the Queen. This Statue we are told was taken to Delhi under instructions of Government to be set up in the capital of the Great Mogul as a memorial of the Imperial Assemblage. For some reason or other the Government changed its mind and the statue was brought back to Calcutta at Mr. Wood's expense. It is now on exhibition at Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co's. The Governor General in Council lately met and decided that there is to be no memorial at Delhi. But the question is what is to be done with the statue? If financial reasons have led the Government to change its mind, we must confess that the amount involved is so small that these reasons do not appear to us to be very cogent. But the public may do what the Government has left undone. The capital is the proper place for the statue; it would be a fitting monument of Indian loyalty, and if the public come forward with their wonted liberality, this gem of art may be preserved to us. Nothing will give us greater pleasure than to see a movement in this city by the leaders of both European and native communities to secure this classic image of our beloved sovereign in marble. We dare say the members of the Government will co-operate in this loyal demonstration.

THE GOVERNMENT of India has at last vouchsafed a reply to the letter of the British Indian Association regarding Mr. Kirkwood. The Home Secretary has addressed the following letter to the Bengal Secretary on the subject, which has been duly communicated to the Association:

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 3709, dated the 29th November last, with which you have submitted a memorial from the Honorary Secretary to the British Indian Association, commenting on the proceedings of Mr. Kirkwood, late Officiating Magistrate of Chittagong in connection with the municipal management of that Town and the prosecution of Babu Lal Chand Chowdhry, one of the Municipal Commissioners.

In connection with this matter the British Indian Association also raise certain questions in respect to the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Bengal Municipal Act.

2. In reply I am to say that the Governor General in Council feels bound to express the gravest disapprobation of Mr. Kirkwood's conduct in the matter, and is of opinion that he has been leniently dealt with. But under all the circumstances represented, it is not considered necessary to disturb Sir R. Temple's orders or to press any further action against Mr. Kirkwood. That gentleman should however be warned that any repetition of similar intemperate and insubordinate conduct especially in connection with his judicial duties will be most severely dealt with.

3. In regard to the remaining subjects of the memorial the Government of India concur in the views expressed in paras. 11, 12 and 13 of your letter to the effect—

(1) that no further orders are necessary beyond those contained in your circular of the 18th August last, instructing all Magistrates not to try, nor to permit Subordinate Magistrates to try, cases in which they may have any direct or indirect interest, or in which there may be any grounds for imputing partiality to their proceedings;

(2) that no reasons have been shewn for any modification in Section 142 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which empowers a Magistrate to arrest a person on suspicion, or,

(3) in the provisions of Section 29 of Act V. of 1876 (B.C.), declaring District Magistrates to be *ex-officio* Chairmen of Municipal Committees, and leaving it discretionary with the Local Government to appoint any other persons when advisable.

4. The British Indian Association should be informed accordingly.

The object of the Association has been gained. The Governor General in Council acknowledges that Mr. Kirkwood "has been leniently dealt with," but apparently out of mercy His Excellency in Council does not wish to "press further action against Mr. Kirkwood." As for the general principles suggested by the Chittagong case the Government of India would not take any action at present. But there are still the Fenwah cases behind.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Engineer Upper Gonduck Division	5	12	0
Hon'ble Vishvanath Narayan Mundlik, C. S. I., Bombay	5	0	0
Patrick Smith Esq., Kotlee	13	4	0
C. W. Odling Esq., Arrah	6	10	0
Mirza Mohamed Abbas, Chandwara	13	4	0
A. Shashia Shastree Esq., Trevendrum	13	4	0
Babu Radhanath Roy, Allyghur	13	4	0
,, Brojendra Mohun Das, Bankipore	6	5	0
,, Okhoy Coomar Banerjee, Allahabad	10	0	0
,, Beharylal Seal, Chinsurah	13	4	0
,, Krishna Chunder Chowdry, Deang	10	0	0
,, Nundlal Bhattacherjee, Dingraghat	5	0	0
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,, Gobind Chunder Das, Baspoor	10	0	0
,, Hemango Chunder Bose, Pingna	13	4	0
,, Nobokissen Mookerjee, Tezpore	5	0	0
,, Obenash Chunder Ghose, Narangabad	5	0	0
,, Girdharee Lal, Mozufferpore	1	0	0
,, Guru Churn Das, Vice-Chairman Road Cess Committee, Moorshedabad	5	8	0
,, Promothnauth Mookerjee, Burrisaul	13	4	0
,, Hem Chunder Banerjee, Misserpookar, Benares	120	0	0
,, Anund Gopal Chatterjee, Dighah	3	5	0
,, Seeram Ghose, Burdwan	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 21, 1877.

The orders granting Mr. S. R Forbes, Assistant Commissioner, Palamow Division, Lohardugga District, one months, privilege leave, cancelled

Baboo Poorno Chunder Gupta, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Rungpore allowed leave for two months.

Mr. P. J. C. Grant, Magistrate and Deputy Collector Howrah to act as Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom.

Mr. F. H. Pellew Magistrate and Collector, 2nd Grade to act as Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah.

Baboo Rash Behary Naik, Special Sub-Depury Collector, employed in Khoordah settlement, vested with powers of a Deputy Collector.

Mr. Seyeard Charles Harcourt to be Sub-Lieutenant of "B" or the Kurseong and Terai Company of the Darjeeling Volunteer Rifle Corps.

Mr. J. C. Veasey, Assistant Settlement officer, Chittagong allowed furlough for one year, and subsidiary leave thirty days.

Baboo Uma Churn Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector posted to Mojufferpore.

Mr. E. Grey, Judge of Patna leave for three months from 4th April next or any subsequent date.

Mr. W. E. H. Forsyth, Barrister-at-Law to act as Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Legislative Department.

Subsidiary leave granted to Mr. G. M. Showers, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Chittagong Hill Tracts will take effect from 28th ultimo instead of 20th idem.

Extension of leave for six months on medical certificate granted by the Secretary of State to Mr. C. E. Gouldsbury Assistant Superintendent of Police, Darjeeling.

Privilege leave for 21 days granted to Baboo Beharilal Chundra, Special Sub-Registrar Furreedpore will take effect from 12th January 1877 instead of 5th idem.

Surgeon-Major Coates, Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal to act as Principal and Professor of Medicine Medical College and ex-officio first Physician to the College Hospital.

Surgeon-Major J. Jones, Officiating Civil Surgeon, Dacca to act as Professor of Opthalmic Medicine and Surgery Medical College.

The Honble Sir Richard Garth, Kt. Q. C. Chief Justice to be President of the Bethune School Committee, Calcutta.

The Services of Mr. E. Lethbridge, M.A. Principal, Krishnagur College, placed at the disposal of the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce.

Assistant-Surgeon Sib Chunder Bose, to have charge of the Sub-division and dipensary at Sewan.

Assistant-Surgeon Romunkrisha Dey to have charge of the dispensary at Hatwa, Sarun.

Assistant-Surgeon Bholanath Pal to have charge of the dispensary at Doolye, Patna.

Assistant-Surgeon Akbar Khan, to have charge of the dipensary and sub-division at Serajgunge.

Assistant-Surgeon Opendronath Sen attached to the dispensary and sub-division at Begoo Serai, Monghyr, allowed leave for one month from the 23rd instant or any subsequent date.

Assistant-Surgeon Tarini Churn Dutt Supernumerary at the Presidency to have temporary charge of the dispensary and sub-division at Begoo Serai.

Third Grade Assistant-Surgeon Gopal Chunder Dey, and charge of the South Suburban Charitable Dispensary at Burisa, 24-Pergunnahs allowed leave for three months.

Second Grade Assistant-Surgeon Nund Coomar Mitter a Supernumerary at the Presidency to have charge of the Burisa Charitable Dispensary, 24-Pergunnahs.

Baboo Hari Prosad Das Gupto B.L, to act as Musiff of Hiemtabad Dinagepore District.

Baboo Sant Prosad, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Munghyr vested with the powers of a Deputy Magistrate Second Class.

Baboo Jadab Chunder Ghose Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Furreedpore, vested with the powers of a Magistrate, First Class.

Baboo Beno Nath Sen, Temporary Executive Engineer, Fourth Grade from the Presidency to the Moozufferpore Division.

Baboo Chunder Mohun Chuckerbutty, Probationary Overseer, 3rd Grade joined the Dacca Division on the forenoon of the 26th ultimo.

Baboo Haran Chunder Bose, Accountant Fourth Grade, Fourth Calcutta Division, allowed leave for 3 months on medical certificate.

Mr. W. H. Nightingale, Executive Engineer (temporary rank) 3rd Grade attached to the Burdwan Division to officiate as Executive Engineer, First Calcutta Division.

Mr. W. Conman, Executive Engineer (temporary rank) Fourth Grade, Hazaribag to officiate as Executive Engineer Bhaugulpore Division.

Mr. R. J. Beakwith, Overseer First Grade, left Buxar for Poona on the afternoon of the 6th March 1877.

Baboo Ramogya Lall Sub-Overseer First Grade transferred from the Western Sone Survey to the Eastern Sone Division.

Baboo Koylas Chunder Choudary overseer First Grade, transferred from special survey duty in the South Western Circle, to the Cossye Division.

Baboo Adhore Chunder Roy Choudhary Sub-Overseer, First Grade, to the Mohanudy Division.

Col. J. F. Stoddard. Superintending Engineer, 2nd Graden (temporary rank) will remain in charge, South Western Circle till relieved.

Advertisements.

BIRTH.—At Shandpore zilla 24 Pergunnas on the 16th Falgoon at about 2 A.M. the wife of. Baboo Jogadanand Roy Moonsif of Sunamgunge at Sylhet, of a son.

NOTICE

Letters of administration to the estate and effects of Sumbhoo Nauth Mullick deceased late of Bowbazar Sumbhoo Nauth Mullick's Lane in Calcutta Banian, have been granted by the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Testamentary and Intestate Jurisdiction to Sreemutty Rammoney Dassee the widow and heir of the abovenamed deceased. Debtors to his Estate are required to pay their debts to administratrix and Creditors are requested to make their claims known to her.

(Sd.) SWINHOE LAW & Co.,
Attorneys.

20*th March*, 1877.

STONE METAL.

Tenders are invited for the supply of stone metal for the Road from Beauleah to Nattore in the District of Rajshahye or a portion thereof. The stone metal to be screened to 2 inch cubes and the quantity (to be arranged hereafter) to be stacked before the 31st October next at three or four places on the Road which are easily accessible by water during the rains.

Persons sending tenders should state the minimum quantity in cub. ft., that they will be able to supply at the rates offered.

It must be distinctly understood that the undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

All tenders to be sent in on or before the 10th of April.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

J. FORBES C. E.
District Engr., Rajshahye.

The 10*th March* 1877.

THE "LEADER,"

A Weekly Journal of Politics and Literature,

EDITED BY JAMES HUTTON,

CONTENTS OF NO. 4, MARCH 24TH, 1877.

1. Short Notes.
2. The Week.
3. The Native Princes of India.
4. Sir John Strachey's Financial Statement.
5. "Your most Obedient Humble Servants."
6. Arida Nutrix.
7. "Over the Hills and Far Away."
8. Historic Parallels: No. 1—The Duke of New Castle.
9. Original Poetry "Loodiana."
10. Day by Day.
11. Gleanings.
12. Extract.
13. Telegrams of the Week.

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All other communications to be addressed to the Editor, 11, Middleton Row, Calcutta.

NOTICE.

Swimming Performance

The undersigned having arrived at Calcutta and been requested by Nwvab Ameerah Khan aBhadur, has appointed Saturday the 31st instant at 4 P.M. to exhibit his skilful performance on water in the tank in the late Mr. Blaquiere's garden at Tiljulla, and solicits the patronage of the nobility and gentry of this city.

Tickets to be had at no 35 South Colinga Streeet.
1st Class 1 rupee 2 nd Class 8 annas.
No admission wi hout presenting tickets at the gate.

(Sd) Syed Azimudin *alias*
Mir Mahi of Lucknow.

NOTICE.

Several attempts to publish unauthorized translations of my writings having come to my knowledge, I beg to inform those who are at present or may in future be engaged in them, that I reserve the right of translation, as much as all other rights.

BANKIM CHUNDER CHATTERJI.

NOTICE.

"Bangadursana," new Series, to be issued from the 1st of Baisakh next.

Remittances to be sent to the undersigned, "Bangadursana" Office, Nyehatty.

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The compiler has already secured the kind patronage of several Native Chiefs, Rajas and Zemindars with short accounts of their lineage and charitable acts &c.

Rajas, Zemindars and Talukdars who desire to record their names in this work are solicited to forward to the undersigned, at an early date a brief account of their family, together with such informations as may be considered important and interesting to the public.

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Hem Chunder Banerjea,
Missirpokhar, Benares.

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I have bought your "Amritarasa" to the amount of Rs. 150. This is a very wonderful medicine. We are quite surprised to see its wonderful power to cure various intricate diseases. In cases of Colic pain (sool) Asthma, Consumption, Chronic Fever, Dyspepsia, Dysentery and Hysteria, its efficacy has been fully observed.

Koylash Chunder Roymohasoy,
Zemindar and Hony. Magistrate;
Dehoorda Zillah, Baleshwar.

Last Bysakh my wife was laid up with various complicated diseases, so much so that there was no means of saving her life. In this state your Amritarasa was administered to her, and she is perfectly cured now.

Issur Chunder Roy Chowdhry,
Bahalgram, Raigunge.

Your Amritarasa being administered to my wife, her diseases seems to be in a great measure checked. The bodily weakness is much less than before. The pain in the stomach is not entirely cured yet, but I hope, from the state she is now in, that by continuing the medicine longer, she might possibly get completely cured, for the disease is not of a short standing.

Shusi Bhusun Haldar,
Deputy Magistrate of Mathabhanga;
Zillah Kuch Behar.

The curative virtue of your Amritarasa is widely known, and I am very happy to see some patients wonderfully cured by it. I do not know what amount of virtue you are acquiring by saving thousands from untimely death.

Chowdhry Protap Narain Roy,
Zemindar of Bansidiha.

By using your Amritarasa continually my disease has been checked in a great measure. My health is progressing, and I have gained much liveliness. Hoping to be perfectly cured by the use of a few bottles more.

Chowdhry Narain Chunder Roy Bahadoor,
Chooramun in Malda.

Babu Motilal Lahery of the Sub-Division Dhubri and some others have been cured by the use of your famous Amritarasa.

Roy Protap Chunder Barua Bahadoor,
Zemindar of Gouripoor, Dhubri.

I once tried your excellent medicine (Amritarasa) in chronic Headache, and the infallible result duly communicated to you. Now I have much pleasure to inform you again that I have tested its efficacy in some cases of Chronic Fever and Spleen with wonderful effect.

I have also cured 8 Cholera cases by your valuable pills—it is the only best reliable remedy yet found.

Rajendra Nath Datta,
Secy. of Rama N. P. Club.

I have much pleasure to inform you that I have been able to cure 50 cases out of 51, who were suffering under complicated diseases. In conclusion I assure you that your Amritarasa is a very efficacious medicine, and the further circulation of it is indispenibly requisite.

Purno Chunder Banerjea,
Member of Chinsurah Club.

One phial of your Amritarasa has done a good deal of good to my younger brother, who was suffering from a long time under Dysentery, Chronic Fever and Spleen. The 1st and 2nd diseases have altogether disappeared, and the Spleen is much better, and hope, will be cured in another bottle.

Dukhina Perda Roy Chowdhry.
Mohesrakha.

A phial of your Amritarasa was bought by me, and given to a woman who was suffering too much from Chronic Fever and other complicated diseases; and I am very glad to inform you that she is wonderfully cured by the use of the same.

Bonomally Paul.
Goonotea *via* Sainthia.

Last year by using your valuable Amritarasa. I am perfectly cured of Chronic Colic pain (sool), from which I suffered.

Joygobind Dutt,
Jatanpookhu *via* Jalpaiguri.

Your Amritarasa is very efficacious. My friend was suffering from fever for 7 years, from Spleen for 5 years and from Dysentery for 1 year, and was exceedingly weak. He used one phial of your Amritarasa, and is much better now The fever is cured, ¼th of the Spleen is reduced, and in place of about 12 bloody stools daily he has 2 or 3 motions now without blood.

Jogendra Chunder Bosu,
Ghutiabazar, Hugli.

Since a year I had been suffering from fever and cough. Having tried in vain various native and European medicines, I was at last completely cured by using your widely known Amritarasa.

Romanath Banerjea,
Huripur, Zillah Dinagepoor.

My poor letter can describe very little the virtue of your valuable medicine known throughout this part of the world. Often do I hear that many persons in these localities are saved from the attack of many dreadful and fatal diseases by means of your kindness. We have seen that Babu Radha Mohun Mookerjea is cured of a long standing Dyspepsia of an aggravated form, and his wife of a chronic asthma in a short time. Amritarasa (*i. e.* a drink which prevents death) is really achieving what its name imports.

Shama Churn Mittra,
Deputy Post-master, Bansdiha.

My brother has derived great benefit by using your Amritarasa. His colic (sool) pain and rumbling of the stomach are cured.

Prosunno Coomar Dass,
Ratnapur, Moorshidabad.

Your Amritarasa was use in a case of Fistula, the sore is cured, there being now only a spot in the place.

Gobind Chunder Sett,
Fansidewa, Darjeeling.

My venerable father was suffering under fever, cough, and * * * from a long time. He used 3 bottles of your valuable Amritarasa, (though he was unable to use it regularly), and his fever and cough are perfectly cured, * * *

Burnesnw rjaookerjea,
Chooramun, Zilla Malda.

Those who used your valuable medicine Amritarasa here, have all been perfectly cured.

Loke Nath Bosu,
Kuttack.

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HEM CHUNDER BANERJEA,
Missirpokhar, Benares.

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I have the honor to inform you that your medicine for cholera was received here when the disease had nearly disappeared from the town. It was however administered in 2 cases with successful result.

Sd. W. R. LARMINE.
Magistrate of Bankura.

I am very glad to say that your Cholera pills have cured all the 10 cases in which they were administered.

(Sd.) D. V. SAPRAY,
Bankipur.

I am requested by the Maharaja of Burdwan to inform you that during the recent outbreak of Cholera in this place, your pills were tried in several cases which occurred among the servants of His Highness and were found to be efficacious. In all these cases the medicine was administered in the early stage of the disease but in one case in which it was administered to a patient who was in an advanced stage it was powerless and the man died.

(Sd.) T. B. MILLER,
Private Secretary.

Your Cholera pills are really infallible. Not being a professional man I was afraid to try your medicine at first, but I administered it in 3 cases given up by the Doctors as hopeless. Two of the patients recovered quickly within 6 hours by using only two pills each. The other a child took one pill which stopped his purging, vomitting, perspiration and spasm and caused a discharge of urine, but unfortunately at this stage his parents gave him some other medicine. The result was the disease relapsed and the child died.

(Sd.) BIPIN BEHARI DUTT,
Station Master Doomraw.

The few Cholera pills that you kindly gave me when I went to Gya in the Cholera season, have wonderfully saved the lives of 13 persons from that fatal disease.

(Sd.) RAMCHUNDER PUNDIT,
Sanscrit College, Benares.

I have to inform you that I could not give a fair trial to your medicine during the late outbreak of cholera here. Strictly speaking I treated 2 cases exclusively with your pills and found them efficacious.

I tried the pills in 10 more cases when they had already had other medicines and their disease had sufficiently advanced. However I am glad to say that those that had the fortune to live for some hours after the administration of your medicine, had the action of their kidny established, though mostly died subsequently. Of these ten cases only 2 actually recovered.

From this short trial I cannot arrive at any conclusion though I do not feel myself disappointed.

(Sd.) KHURGESHUR BOSE,
Asst. Surgeon Akyab.

I have much pleasure to say that I have been able to cure 80 cholera cases out of 86 by the use of Babu Hem Chunder Banerjea's Cholera pills in 1875. All these cases were personally treated by me gratis among the Pilgrims. On the subject I have been examined by the Civil Surgeon of Benares who has retained the papers in which the result of my treat ment is recorded.

(Sd.) GOPINATH SOOKUL,
Benares.

Last month the Cholera Pills brought from you, were administered to 6 patients, and am very glad to say that all of them were perfectly cured. Cholera medicine, like this, has not yet been discovered All the patients were cured within six hours.

Gopal Chunder Banerjea,
Native Doctor, Chupra.

Your Cholera medicine is the best one yet discovered. Many persons were cured by its use.

Parmeshwar Bedratna,
Umbica Rajbatty, Kulna.

The good effect of your Cholera Pills cannot be expressed in writing. It was tried in 18 cases among the coolies here. I am very glad to say that all of them have recovered without a single failure.

Moheeooddeen,
In charge, Tea Garden, Koorkurea.

The Cholera Pills sent by you were administered to 5 patients, and the result is that all of them have been cured.

Radha Bulove Sing Deb,
Zemindar, Bankura.

Many thanks for the Cholera Pills you kindly set me I have tried it in several cases with successful result.

Zahurul Hossain,
Dewan of Talibpur Estate.

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